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Journal of the Louisiana Section

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The Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers was founded in 1914 and has since been in continuous operation. The Section consists of the entire state of Louisiana and is divided into four branches that directly serve over 2000 members. They are the Acadiana Branch centered in Lafayette, the Baton Rouge Branch, the New Orleans Branch, and the Shreveport Branch.

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Baton Rouge Printing, Inc., Port Allen, LA

Louisiana Civil Engineer quarterly journal is an official publication of the Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers with an average circulation of approximately 2100. The Section neither guarantees the accuracy of the information provided nor necessarily concurs with opinions expressed. It does not claim the copyrights for the contents in this publication. Please submit letters and articles for consideration to be published by email to nedrasuedavis@gmail.com or mail to the Publications Committee c/o Nedra S. Davis • 622 Steele Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806-5742.



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The Louisiana Section is located in ASCE Region 5 that consists of the Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida Sections.

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President's Message

By Christopher Humphreys, PE

It is an honor to serve as the 2015-2016 President of the Louisiana Section of ASCE and I thank the membership for their trust and confidence that allows me this privilege.

Having served multiple terms as a director and then as an officer on the Section Board for the past nine years, I have had the pleasure to work with many outstanding leaders who have selflessly dedicated their time and talents to making our section truly outstanding. My goal will be to live up to the example set by the distinguished men and women who have served before me and continue to serve our membership and advance the profession. This can best be accomplished by facilitating the outstanding board, committees, branches and institutes that make up our section. I look forward to working with the board, branches and institutes to accomplish this goal.

Specifically our membership committee, led by Matt Redmon, PE, for the past several years has made winning the early renewal award offered by ASCE National practically automatic. Our government relations committee, chaired by Joey Coco, PE, recently led efforts to get constitutional amendments 1 and 2 passed by the voters in the October 24, 2015 election. Amendment 1 will move excess mineral revenues from the budget stabilization fund, better known as the "rainy day fund" into a new account that can be used only for transportation projects. Amendment 2 will allow the state treasurer to invest existing state funds into the Louisiana State Infrastructure Bank which then could offer low interest loans to local governments for transportation projects. Many other states have utilized infrastructure banks as a way to increase investment into projects. For example, Georgia has leveraged more than \$50 million to support more than \$208 million in infrastructure investments. I congratulate Joey Coco and the Government Relations Committee on their significant contribution to this important win for the people of Louisiana and our membership.

Our Publications Committee continues to publish the award winning Louisiana Civil Engineer journal magazine, thanks to many but in particular to the efforts of Nedra Davis, our editor. For several years now, the journal has won the Outstanding Section and Branch Newsletter Award and is the place to highlight significant projects and technical articles. It is distributed to over 2,000 engineers four times a year. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this great resource to publicize your projects or technical publications as well as advertise your company.

Last year our Website Committee, led by Patrick Furlong, PE, completly updated our website www.lasce.org to provide news on the section's leadership and activities, as well as member services such as employment advertisements. I encourage you to visit the

website as well as submit news for posting and take advantage of job listings and other features.

Louisiana is a great state for many reasons and one thing we should all be proud of is the significant civil engineering projects in our state. Many of these projects were



Christopher Humphreys, PE

highlighted in our Centennial Gala celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Louisiana Section in 2014. Our History and Heritage Committee led by Miles Bingham, PE has worked hard to get several of these projects recognized as National Civil Engineering Landmarks. To date, Miles and his committee have documented the innovative design and construction significance of the McNeil Street Pump Station in Shreveport and the Huey P. Long Bridge and Lake Pontchartrain Causeway in the New Orleans area which have all been recognized by ASCE National as National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks. The Committee is close to getting this recognition for the Bonnet Carre Spillway which we hope to dedicate in 2016. There are many other projects in the state worthy of this designation. I encourage everyone to recommend projects to the History and Heritage Committee to highlight the accomplishments of Louisiana Civil Engineers.

It is clear that the Louisiana Section is considered an outstanding section by ASCE National partly for the work of the committees described above. I will work hard to help these hard working, talented groups to maintain this high level of performance. I would appreciate any feedback on how we can serve our members better. I urge everyone to contact me or the board with suggestions, contributions or constructive feedback.

It is also very clear that our members are outstanding and very highly regarded on a national level. If you haven't heard, our Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE is currently serving as President Elect of ASCE National. Next year she will be the second President of ASCE National from the Louisiana Section in the past 10 years, third overall. Previously, Tom Jackson, PE served as National President in 2005-2006 and Walter Blessey was also the National President many years ago. That alone is a huge accomplishment for our section but in addition, just this year two of our members were recognized as Distinguished Members, the highest honor a Civil Engineer can aspire to other than the title of President. This

continued on next page

October I attended the National Convention in New York City where the Society recognized thirteen eminent engineers as Distinguished Members. Two of these were Louisiana Section members. I encourage everyone to attend the National Convention and this Celebration of Leader's Luncheon. The work and accomplishments of the engineers recognized is truly inspirational and will make you proud to be a civil engineer. Our members recognized for this award were D. Thomas Iseley, PhD, PE, Dist. M. ASCE from Ruston and George Z. Voyiadjis, D. Eng. Sc., F. EMI., Dist. M. ASCE.

I am proud of the Louisiana Section of ASCE and honored to be President this year. My plans are to facilitate the committees, branches, and institutes to maintain their progress and success, to provide some continuing education seminars in underserved regions of our state and to develop a committee to update our Report Card on the Infrastructure of our state in 2017.

I ask for your suggestions, participation and support. I am excited about the important business at hand and opportunity to serve. I will work hard to maintain the success and progress of our section and ask for your suggestions and support.

The Question of Land Loss as it relates to the Louisiana Licensing Laws and Rules for Engineers

By Dennis Lambert, PE

My introduction to the coastal, ecological and environmental issues relating to the State of Louisiana was in the laboratory of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department of Tulane University. I was in no way a model student as my academic performance oscillated from probation to the highest scored test in my Mechanics of Materials class. I had to leave college several times due to personal setbacks requiring my full attention only to return to see my grade point average rise to a 3.34 and receive the recognition and listing by the Dean. I have never found that I could do something and get it right the first time 100%. I was never the best or the top of the class. Engineering is the application of physics, as I was told. To put this in perspective, I graduated from high school in 1983 and in 1996 completed my Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with concentration in structural analysis. I also received a second Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering and went on to complete a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering, with emphasis on numerical modeling. It was the patience of the staff, professors, advisors and Deans of Tulane University that allowed me time to grow and to re-direct my attention toward my studies and their completion. I found myself enmeshed between two seemingly polarized worlds, that of concrete and steel design, and that of the theory of probability and statistics. I often asked myself when any of it would make any sense.

The silver lining of my extended stay in academia was an introduction to what coastal research is all about, and an understanding that continues to broaden through the reading of the researchers who've brought us to the current "State of Knowledge." As an exam writer for the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) for the Environmental Engineering Professional Engineer (PE) exam, I have suggested that coastal engineering be considered a specialty area of practice or at least a part of the examination, participated in NCEES Knowledge and Skills Surveys and the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Environmental Standard Setting Study. I have sat on working groups for the Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) program, served as member of the

Louisiana Sand Management Working Group of the former Minerals Management Service, moderated sessions at conferences on coastal issues, sat on committees for the Society of Tulane Engineers, the Tulane Engineering Forum, Tulane School Science & Engineering



Dennis Lambert, PE

Council, the Louisiana Society of Professional Engineers' Legislative Committee, the American Consulting Engineering Council's Environmental Committee, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying (LAPELS) Transportation Committee formed to compile Investigative Aid No. 5, and since 1988 remained continuously active in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). I am a member of the Transportation and Development Institute, Louisiana Chapter Executive Committee of ASCE and became a member of the Coasts, Oceans Ports and Rivers Institute (COPRI) in 2001 and on the Louisiana Chapter Executive Committee since their respective formations. Though active, I have not been the type of engineer that submits papers for publication. My focus has remained on commerce and the practice of engineering as a practitioner, while our registration boards focus on the protection of the public.

Today, I work for a firm, COWI North America, Inc. formerly known as Ben C. Gerwick, Inc., that was primary designer of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) Lake Borgne Surge Barrier under the supervision of Dale Berner, PhD, PE engineer of record for the majority of the project. The worlds of statistics, modeling and structural analysis in which I was trained converged in South Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina. Today, practicing licensed civil engineers, including those skilled in environmental and coastal

engineering, have to calculate the 1% chance of exceedance values of water levels for wall heights, and the 0.2% exceedance at confidence intervals for overtopping rates at the given 1% designs criteria. This information is now used in the entire structural design process to evaluate the resilience and check measures necessary that provide proper resiliency.

The disclosure of my background provides insight to my perspective on land loss in South Louisiana, as a practicing licensing professional engineer (PE) in Civil Engineering and Environmental Engineering. This prospectus I offer to the members of ASCE who hold a PE civil engineering license in the State of Louisiana, is intended to "start the conversation" on the topic of land loss as it relates to the "safeguarding of life, heath and property and to the promotion of public welfare." If you, the reader, are like me, a garden variety practitioner in Louisiana, allow me to present this supposition.

As we know from the history of LAPELS, the State of Louisiana passed its first registration act in 1908, following the successful efforts of the Louisiana Engineering Society. The underlying thesis of these memorialized acts and subsequent laws and promulgated rules was "for the protection of the public." In fact, the Louisiana Revised Statues (L.R.S.) states, in the General Provisions (L.R.S. 37: 681), the purpose of the registration law:

§681. General provisions

In order to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public welfare, any individual in either public or private capacity, or foreign or domestic firm, practicing or offering to practice professional engineering or professional land surveying, shall be required to submit evidence that he is qualified to so practice and shall be licensed as hereinafter provided. It shall be unlawful for any person to practice or to offer to practice in this state engineering or land surveying, as defined in this Chapter, or to use in connection with his name or otherwise assume, use, or advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he is a professional engineer or a professional land surveyor, unless such person has been duly licensed under the provisions of this Chapter.

Acts 1980, No. 568, §1; Acts 1999, No. 396, §1; Acts 2003, No. 279, §5.

Further under L.R.S. 37: 682(12)(a), the definition of the practice of engineering includes similar language and is defined:

(12)(a) "Practice of engineering" shall mean responsible professional service which may include consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, designing, or inspection of construction in connection with any public or private utilities, structures, machines, equipment, processes, works, or projects wherein the public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, and property is concerned or involved, when such professional service requires the application of engineering principles and the interpretation of engineering data.

The law further defines disciplinary proceedings against licensees and certificate holders and the procedures that should be followed for gross negligence (L.R.S. 37:698(A)(2)). In response to the revised statutes, LAPELS promulgated the rules in the Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC). Gross negligence is defined includes similar language in LAC 46:LXI.105

Gross Negligence—as used in R.S. 37:698(A)(2), shall mean the practice of engineering or land surveying by a licensee characterized by the licensee's lack of reasonable care, precaution, or attention to the health, safety, or welfare of others, which could result in injury or damage to life or property or financial loss. Examples of practice which the board may consider to constitute gross negligence include, but are not limited to:

- a. the preparation of an incomplete or inaccurate engineering or land surveying plan or document that is below acceptable standards, which is released for construction or other lawful purposes, and which could result in financial loss, damage or injury; or
- b. failure of the licensee to exercise reasonable diligence and care in providing professional services, which could result in financial loss, damage or injury.

An Act or Licensure Law is also defined under LAC 46:LXI.105 references L.R.S. 37:681-37:703 hereinafter referred to as "the licensing law." The licensing law contains dozens of incidences where health, safety, protection and public welfare is cited. The intent of this editorial, is that practicing licensed civil engineers should ask themselves, in light of our history in Louisiana and in providing protection to the public – "is land loss a threat to the health, safety and general welfare of the public?" My hope is that licensed civil engineers would agree that it is.

As we embark on the restoration of our coast, processing complex marine, coastal, ecologically driven, and largely civil works projects that also are intended to protect the public, we, as ASCE members and practicing licensed civil engineers must reflect on our underlying purpose of licensure and our own policy under Policy Statement 130 - Professional Licensure of Engineers:

"The purpose of engineering licensure is to protect and enhance the health, safety and welfare of the public. Licensure assures the public that the practice of engineering is undertaken in a manner consistent with applicable codes of professional conduct. The licensure requirements of education, examination, experience and continuing professional development are intended to achieve that purpose."

Let's together, remind ourselves, the public, and our peers of this policy.

Vision Statement

By Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE, F.SEI, M.COPRI, M.ASCE, President-Elect

I don't know if you have read ASCE's The Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025, but that document resonates with me. A loose quote from Vision 2025 is "Civil engineers are trusted leaders for a modern world: master builders, stewards of the environment, innovators, managers of risk, and leaders in public policy." The word leader pops up over and over. I envision that ASCE will lead the profession to a more sustainable world and enhanced global quality of life. The future that I see is one where civil engineers are the go-to people when it comes to enhanced infrastructure for a growing economy, wise use of our natural resources, well thought out mitigation and recovery from disasters, and public policy that makes sense.

Let's move our focus to ASCE membership. What does ASCE mean to members? Members have many faces: student members striving to win the steel bridge or concrete canoe competition, younger members working to gain leadership skills and networking at branch events, practitioners honing technical skills via work within an Institute, civil engineering educators/researchers pushing the boundaries of knowledge and publishing in ASCE journals, international members looking to interact with likeminded stateside colleagues, and our life members who have a wealth of historical expertise. I envision a future where ASCE will, through members, lead the Society to a future where: the public knows that civil engineering, as a profession, safeguards society's health, safety and welfare; top high school students of all ethnicities, genders, and races choose civil engineering as a career; student members continue on as engaged members once they graduate and begin practice; global membership increases because all members (US and foreign born) see and get value in membership; and the Institutes and ASCE, as the mother-ship, interact regularly and share resources when it is economically beneficial.

We already have the Vision - and as a profession and a Society, we are moving toward those goals - but how do we best get there from here? Before we can aspire to be world leaders, we must make sure that the world will still regard civil engineering as a "profession". I've been an engineering academic for the last twenty years. In that time period, I have seen several other professional occupations move from requiring an undergraduate degree for entry into the profession to requiring a graduate degree. Think physical therapy - becoming a physical therapist today involves earning a graduate degree from an accredited physical therapy program and obtaining a state license, the degree requirement before 1990 was a baccalaureate, and it is now quickly moving to a required doctorate. Some government agencies today define a profession as an occupation that requires an advanced degree. Alternately, for engineers to enter into the profession, a baccalaureate in engineering is required. However, recent pressure from state legislators to reduce the number of hours required for an engineering Bachelor's degree has resulted in a landslide of BSCE degree programs reducing degree requirements to 120-128 credit hours. Couple this with additional "soft skills" courses in keeping with ABET requirements and an increasing amount of technical material an engineer should be familiar with (ASCE's Body of Knowledge), tomorrow's undergraduate engineering student may lack important technical courses. I believe that ASCE must be a leader in moving our profession into a future where the reputation of civil engineering as a profession is secure. One way to accomplish this is to continue working with NCEES on the "Bachelors+30" (NCEES calls it the "Masters or Equivalent") concept professional where engineering licensure will require additional education beyond the baccalaureate degree at some time in the future.



Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE, F.SEI, M.COPRI, M.ASCE, President-Elect

Now we should talk about the future of the profession as a world leader in stewardship of the built and natural environment. Civil engineers do plan, design, construct, and maintain the built environment. Who better than civil engineers to advocate for improved and renewed infrastructure, better maintained engineered systems and sustainable practices? Both the ASCE Report Card and Envision are great tools that are now used to let the public and our elected officials know about the state of our critical infrastructure. We need to persist in the education of the public and decision makers on the consequences of neglect of our infrastructure and continued unsustainable practices. And let's face it, those pre-1492 conquistadors were right: the world is flat - and it is shrinking - so this is even more important for our international members. Many international members are citizens of developing countries whose infrastructure needs are greater than those in the US. I see a great opportunity for ASCE's members to make an impact on the quality of infrastructure and the quality of life, both here in the US, but especially abroad.

Do our members have the tools needed to lead? The Dream Big! 3-D IMAX movie will be a great tool that members can use to lead kids to consider civil engineering as a career, as well as the general public to greater awareness of our profession. In leading our student members upon graduation into associate membership, practitioner advisors can play a key role. The concept of practitioner advisor needs to be re-energized and better implemented. Leadership skills can be taught. Leadership training is now being included in ASCE programs that reach our student, younger member, branch and section leaders. I believe that our institute leaders and leaders of our international groups should also have the opportunity to take part in this type of training.

Years ago, as a student, I was blest to have "fallen" into civil engineering as my chosen major. I now get great pleasure as an engineering educator in sharing my passion for civil engineering by teaching the next generation of civil engineers. As an outspoken leader, I will continue to be a role model in promoting diversity not only of gender, but of culture, ethnicity, nationality and thinking. And I sincerely hope the next phase of my life is to lead the American Society of Civil Engineers into a bright future.

ASCE Region 5 Director's Letter

By Melissa Wheeler, M. ASCE

Dear Region 5 Members,

Your Board of Governors met recently and welcomed 3 new members to our team – Steven Goldstein (FL), Lawren Pratt (AL), and Barbara Lehman (AL). This means we also had to say goodbye to Governors who have devoted 3 years to the success of Region 5. We thank and wish the best of luck to Brett Goodman (FL), Eric Czerniejewski (FL), and Tony Palmer (AL). Region 5 is better because of you!

At our meeting in conjunction with the Mississippi Section, we continued our Strategic Conversation to set the direction of the Region. As part of this process, we have developed our 5 core values. Our plan will be to use these values as the basis for all that we do in Region 5.

- Trust
- Effectiveness
- Service
- Communication
- Teamwork

Each year the Society puts on Multi-Regional Leadership Conferences. This MRLC is joint training for leaders in our Sections & Branches, Student Chapters, and Younger Member Groups. Region 5 will be participating in the MRLC in Pittsburgh, PA, on February 12-13. It's a great opportunity to learn more about how ASCE can help you be successful both professionally and personally. Please consider sending a representative to participate in this valuable experience.

The Society Board of Direction met recently prior to the 2015 ASCE Convention in New York City. Among the many issues discussed were our continued work on Strategic Planning and the Task Committee on Governance Activity Review aimed at improving and assisting ASCE's work at the Region level.

- The Board approved the 3 Professional and 2 Association Strategic Initiatives. There is still work to be done on the formulation of these items, but I will be providing more information as it becomes available.
- The Board approved the creation of a new task committee to study the revision of ASCE's Geographic Region boundaries. This will seek to more appropriately balance the number of members in each Region while better aligning communities with common experiences and common needs. Currently, the number of members assigned to each Geographic Region ranges from 9,688 to 23,917.
- The new task committee was also charged with bringing forward a proposal to reduce the total number of Regions by one (and

thus the number of region directors by one) to allow for another technical region director to be added to the Board without increasing its overall size. In anticipation of this eventual reduction in geographic regions and related Board seats, the Board



Melissa Wheeler, M. ASCE

authorized proceeding with putting the Constitutional amendment required to add a third technical region director on the 2016 election ballot.

- The Task Committee on Governance Activity outlined core activities for Geographic Regions and Geographic Region Directors and Governors. This list consolidates into one easily referenced document those activities, including those already underway in many Regions, such as hosting Region meetings, awards, developing future leaders, maintaining Region web pages, and nominating members for Society and Institute committees.
- The Committee also recommended that funding be built into the 2017 ASCE budget for an annual agenda of interaction and training options for ASCE Geographic Region Directors, who serve as the Geographic Region Board of Governors chairs.

Your Region 5 Board of Governors is always open to hearing about what's important to you. If you have something you want to share, please feel free to contact me at any time. I will be happy to address any issues or concerns at monthly BOG calls. Your Director and Governors are here to help you and make your group successful. Please let us know how we can help!

Melissa Wheeler, M. ASCE Director, Region 5 mswheele@southernco.com

*Remember, the R5BoG is made up of seven Governors who are willing and able to help:

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2015-16 ASCE Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon

The 2015 Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon was held on September 11, 2015, at the Chateau Country Club, Kenner Louisiana and was hosted by the New Orleans Branch. New Orleans Branch President Wesley Eustis, called the meeting to order, gave the invocation, and welcomed everyone to the luncheon. Section President Pamela Gonzales Granger made the opening remarks. President Granger cited the many accomplishments during the past year and thanked the Section Board for their hard work and support.

Afterwards, Section Awards Committee Chairman Tyler Roy opened the awards ceremony. The ASCE Louisiana Section Awards were instituted to recognize the outstanding contributions of Louisiana civil engineers for service to their profession and ASCE. He thanked the branches for nominating an outstanding slate of candidates for consideration for each award. The quality of the nominees for the various awards made the awards committee's task to determine this year's award recipients very difficult. Chairman Roy also thanked the awards committee, for their efforts in reviewing the numerous nominations and assisting in selecting this year's recipients.

This year's Section Award recipients were:

Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III, PE — Outstanding Young Civil Engineer Lindsey Thomas Cooper, IV PE, F.SEI, F.ASCE — Outstanding Civil Engineer (not pictured)

Sarah Christine Laakso, PE – Outreach
Ali M. Mustapha, PE – Lifetime Achievement

This year's award recipients reflected a wide range of work experiences varying from consulting to government to academia were honored during the ceremony. Each of these award recipients shares a common bond — they are all dedicated to their civil engineering profession, ASCE, their communities, and their families.

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the 2015 Wall of Fame inductees. Each branch can select up to one nominee for inclusion to the Wall. It is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Louisiana Civil Engineer by the Louisiana Section.

This year's inductees include:

William W. Gwyn, PE - New Orleans

George Z. Voyiadjis, PhD, PE, Dist.M.ASCE – Baton Rouge (not pictured)

After Chairman Roy presented the Section Awards, Section President Granger announced the final award of the ceremony, the President's Medal, to **Patrick K. Furlong, PE.**

Section President Granger installed the incoming Section Officers and Board of Directors for the Louisiana Section for the 2015-2016 administrative year.

The 2015-2016 Section Officers are:

President – Christopher G. Humphreys, PE
President-Elect – Matthew D. Redmon, PE
Vice-President – Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE
Secretary-Treasurer – Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE
Past President – Pamela A. Gonzales Granger, PE

Branch President Directors

Acadiana, Garland Pennison, PE New Orleans, Wesley Eustis, PE Baton Rouge, Danielle Welborn, PE Shreveport, Chris Myers, PE

At-Large Directors

Ronald L. Schumann, Jr, PE Russell "Joey" J. Coco, PE

Assigned Directors

Tonja Koob, PhD, PE Rudolph A. Simoneaux III, PE Tyler Roy, El Patrick K. Furlong, PE

The meeting concluded with outgoing President Granger and incoming President Humphreys exchanging the President's Plaque and Past-President pin. Incoming President Humphreys closed the luncheon and thanked everyone for attending.



2015-2016 ASCE Louisiana Section Officers



Christopher G. Humphreys, PE
President



Matthew D. Redmon, PE President-Elect



Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE Vice-President



Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE Secretary-Treasurer



Pamela A. Gonzales Granger, PE
Past President

2015-2016 ASCE Louisiana Section Leadership



Left to right front row: Tyler Roy, El, Ali Mustapha, PE, Pamela A. Gonzales-Granger, PE, Danielle Welborn, PE, Matthew Redmon, PE, Chris Myers, PE Back Row: Christopher G. Humphreys, PE, Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE, Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE, Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III, PE, Patrick K. Furlong, PE, Ronald L. Schumann, Jr, PE, Wesley Eustis, PE



Christopher G. Humphreys accepts the Presidential gavel from Pamela Gonzales Granger



Pamela Gonzales Granger accepts the Past President's Pin from Christopher G. Humphreys

2015-2016 ASCE Louisiana Section Board of Directors



Garland Pennison, PE Acadiana Branch President Director



Wesley Eustis, PE New Orleans Branch President Director Baton Rouge Branch President Director Shreveport Branch President Director



Danielle Welborn, PE



Chris Myers, PE



Ronald L. Schumann, Jr, PE At-Large Director



Russell "Joey" J. Coco, PE At-Large Director



Assigned Director



Rudolph A. Simoneaux III, PE Assigned Director



Tyler Roy, El Assigned Director



Patrick K. Furlong, PE Assigned Director

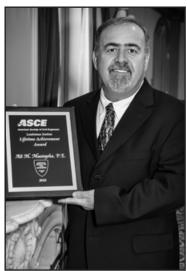
2015 Louisiana Section Awards



Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III, PE Outstanding Young Civil Engineer



Sarah Christine Laakso, PE
Outreach



Ali M. Mustapha, PE Lifetime Achievement



Patrick Furlong, PE
President's Medal

Iseley Elected to the Grade of ASCE Distinguished Member By Catherine Ort-Mabry

Director, Trenchless Technology Center David T. (Tom) Iseley, PhD, PE, Dist.M.ASCE, professor of civil engineering and construction engineering technology, and director of the Trenchless Technology Center at Louisiana Tech University, was named to the 2015 Class of Distinguished Members.

Iseley has spent nearly 40 years in the civil engineering profession in planning, design, construction underground of infrastructure systems. In addition to Louisiana Tech, he has served on the faculty of several other universities, and he is a founding director of the American Society Trenchless Technology (NASTT). Iseley also served for 3 years as the chairman of the National Utility Contractors Association's (NUCA) Trenchless Technology Committee.



David T. (Tom) Iseley, PhD, PE, Dist.M.ASCE

ASCE's Pipeline Division, as well as 5 years on the executive committee of the Construction Division, the precursor to today's Construction Institute.

At Louisiana Tech, Iseley helped establish the Trenchless Technology Center, innovative internationally renowned research center that is at the forefront of trenchless technology research. He also helped establish the Buried Asset Management Institute-International. nonprofit. international corporation evaluates and develops buried asset management protocols for underground water infrastructure.

Iseley earned a bachelor of science degree and a master of business administration degree from the University of Alabama, Birmingham,

He served as the chairman of the executive committee of the and earned a PhD in civil engineering from Purdue University.

ASCE National Engineering Conference 2015 New York City, New York, October 11-14, 2015

By Christopher G. Humphreys, PE

As part of my role as Louisiana Section President, I attended the ASCE Engineering Conference in New York City, New York a few weeks ago. The conference had close to 1000 participants from all over the world. Danielle Welborn, Baton Rouge Branch President, Wesley Eustis, New Orleans Branch President, Nedra Davis, State Government Relations Committee, and Norma Jean Mattei, National President Elect also attended the conference from the Louisiana Section. The opening theme of the conference was exploring the sights, entertainment and tastes of the most famous New York neighborhoods — Chinatown! The New York Met Section organized this year's conference. Special thanks goes out to the Met Section's Cesare (Chase) De Rose, Sr., Chair and Jason L. Stern, PE, Vice Chair for all of their generous hospitality. The conference afforded many opportunities for technical tours, community service projects, and short courses.

The sessions of the conference offered valuable lessons learned in State of the industry and profession; Professional, leadership, and technical training; Cross-discipline technical projects; Causes, effects, and mitigation of natural and man-made catastrophes; ASCE strategic issues and public policy; Significant projects; and History & heritage. The presenters emphasized the ASCE three strategic initiatives that guide our work: Infrastructure, Raise the Bar, and Sustainability. The conference also focused on coastal issues and resiliency. The New York Met Section released the 2015 Report Card for New York's Infrastructure and featured this in their session: Fighting for the Future of New York's Infrastructure: What the 2015 Report Card Found and How to Raise the Grades.

The conference also offered great non-technical sessions and forums with distinguished speakers, for the opening session was

Luke Williams, international best-selling author presenting, *Disrupt, Think the Unthinkable to Spark Transformation in your Business*; and for the Leadership & Society Awards Breakfast was keynote speaker Nicholas DeNichilo, PE, M.ASCE who presented his speech "Leadership in the Civil Engineering Profession - Our Vision, Our Challenge, Our Purpose". The Celebration of Leaders Luncheon honored and inducted ASCE's eminent engineers to this year's class of Distinguished Members, which include from Louisiana: D. Thomas Iseley, PhD, PE, Dist.M.ASCE and George Z. Voyiadjis, D.Eng.Sc, F.EMI, Dist.M.ASCE. Several networking opportunities were available during the conference and I was able to meet with new members and reconnect with ASCE members I have met over the years allowing us to share ideas and lessons learned not only regarding projects but ASCE branch and section activities.

As part of the continued promotion of our profession, ASCE is currently working on an IMAX production of big civil engineering projects titled "Dream Big" and it is scheduled to be released in 2017. If interested you can follow the film on Facebook: www.facebook.com/DreamBigFilm.

The conference also featured the National ASCE Annual Business Meeting with the induction ceremony of our 2015-16 Board of Directors. Our very own, Norma Jean Mattei, Phd, PE was sworn in as President Elect. This Annual Business Meeting marked the first for our new Executive Director Tom Smith, PE. The closing session featured engineer-comedian, Don McMillan who brought a bit of levity while introducing the next host city for the ASCE 2016 Convention – Portland, Oregon.



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Identifying and Prioritizing Infrastructure Projects in Impaired Watersheds to Achieve Actual Water Quality Improvements By Aimee Killeen

The values and benefits of protecting water quality are many. Healthy water bodies provide fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetic resources, recreational opportunities, and safe drinking water supplies. Water quality is an integral part of our own individual and community well-being. Water quality is regulated and protected in the United States (US) through numerous federal and state laws and regulations, including the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) implements and enforces provisions of these laws and regulations under authority delegated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries also play a role in regulating various aspects of aquatic habitats. Many of these regulations have components that place requirements on local governments, or impose a liability on a local government whose actions result in degradation of surface water quality.

Surface water quality in St. Tammany Parish has been lowered over the past many decades due to multiple water resource management issues, which have arisen from rapid urban growth, uncontrolled

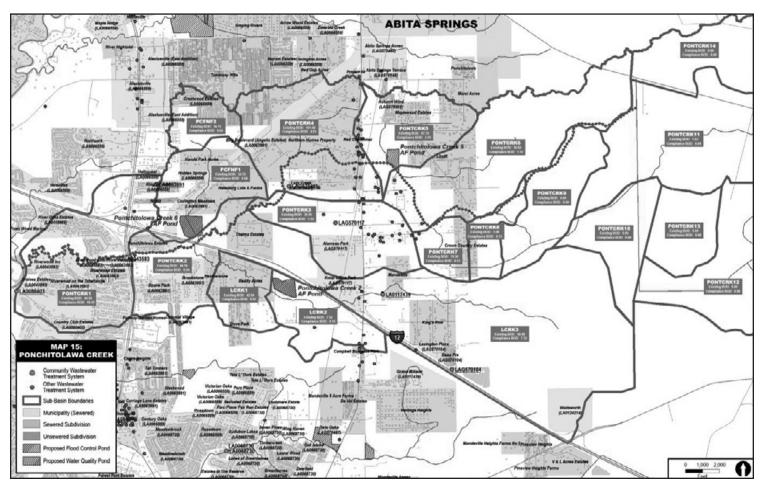
storm water runoff, insufficient drainage infrastructure, insufficient surge protection, and wetland degradation and loss. Based on the objectives outlined the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), the project team set out to gather



Aimee Killeen

the necessary data and information to develop modeling tools, instruments and recommendations that would allow the State, Parish, planners, regulators, and stakeholders to evaluate various options for ways to protect and enhance water quality in St. Tammany Parish.

As with many areas that experience rapid growth and progress, infrastructure challenges have presented themselves. The pace of



development in the Parish over the past twenty years has become so accelerated that municipal infrastructure including water, sewer, and drainage, has not been able to keep pace with population growth. The result has been the installation of thousands of individual home wells and sewage treatment units, and localized water and sewer infrastructure by private developers and utility companies. This rapid urban sprawl combined with decentralization and privatization of traditional public services has led to a noticeable decline in surface water quality in St. Tammany Parish.

The overall goal of the project was to provide a road map of costeffective, implementable projects that would achieve measurable water quality improvements through a targeted watershed approach supported by data and science. The recommended projects, included wastewater, storm water, and flood mitigation projects along with regulatory updates to address surface water quality impacts from various sources in the Parish, including urban growth, storm water runoff, insufficient drainage, water body modification, wetland degradation and standards updates.

As demonstrated by the study, most Parish water bodies are suffering poor "health" due to low dissolved oxygen levels that result from a lack of elevation, stagnating waters, and wetlands loss exacerbated by point source discharges. Wind and tidal backflows cause further stagnation in low flow waters by preventing the water flowing downstream and thus reaeration. However, the scientific modeling efforts contained within the report demonstrate that ratcheting down only on point source dischargers may not necessarily effect or restore water quality. The study demonstrated that a holistic approach is necessary to resolve water quality issues in St. Tammany Parish including addressing the necessary regulatory changes, flood and drainage modifications, re-establishment of historical flow paths, and sewer projects that demonstrated through modeling, actual measurable improvements in water quality.

The final report assigns specific pollutant loads to each watershed sub-basin located in the targeted areas of St. Tammany Parish. The recommendations suggest the Parish steer away from allowing new discharges in those basins where the existing load has been consumed and directed to those areas where the water body has

the assimilative capacity to accept additional load. In basins where development is proposed without available capacity, the study recommends that development should be required to maintain a net zero increase in load through effluent reduction/elimination, sewering unserved areas, providing additional treatment for existing dischargers, or other alternative technologies.

In addition to assisting with future development, the final report identifies those wastewater, storm water and flood projects that, according to the modeling, will result in actual water quality improvements in the targeted watershed sub-basins. Projected costs for each of the identified projects were then developed allowing the Parish to see the cost associated with pollution reductions in the stream.

Because watersheds are so dynamic and influenced by so many factors, especially in the tidally influenced swamps of southern St. Tammany Parish, many of the projects perceived to be no-brainers for water quality improvement (ex. providing sewer to a 500 home unsewered neighborhood) didn't always result in a measurable improvement in the waterbody, especially after factoring in the cost to make the improvements. In the end, the overall goal of the project of providing the Parish with a road map of implementable projects that will actually realize water quality improvements was achieved. The Parish now clearly knows what water and wastewater projects to fund where to steer development and can now take a targeted approach to improving water quality rather than the blindfolded target throwing approach previously used.

The Providence Team included Duplantis Design Group and Greenpoint Engineering. All three firms played an integral role in completing the study for St. Tammany Parish under Providence's contract with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

Subdivision Name	BASIN	New Customers	Total Sewer Project Cost	Total Water Project Cost	Total Projects Cost	BOD Load Reduced	BOD Reduction Cost
Fairway Garden Homes	Bayou Tete L'Ours	74	\$1,295,000	\$359,900	\$1,654,900	23.3 lb	\$71,000/lb
Ozone Heights	Bayou Tete L'Ours	28	\$1,129,000	\$843,600	\$1,972,600	8.8 lb	\$223,600/lb
Tete L'Ours	Bayou Tete L'Ours	22	\$1,518,800	\$498,000	\$2,016,800	6.9 lb	\$292,100/lb
Totals		124	\$3,942,800	\$1,701,500	\$5,644,300	39 lb	\$144,600/lb

ASCE-COPRI Louisiana Chapter News

By Erin Rooney, PE, Director - Communications



The Louisiana Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute (L.COPRI) is continuing to promote membership and visibility throughout the State of Louisiana by conducting joint seminars with local Branches and State Sections of ASCE.

On August 20, 2015 LCOPRI hosted a seminar at the Lake Charles SEED center. This seminar focused on the Ports component of LCOPRI's four core topics. Speakers from the Southwestern Louisiana area presented information about the incredible industrial development planned for the region, the economic gains that would result from this development, and some of the technical and regulatory challenges of an LNG export facility. The speakers included:

Komi Hassan, Magnolia LNG RB Smith, SWLA Economic Development Alliance Stephen Broussard, Port of Cameron Ernest Broussard, Hunt Guillot & Associates

Over 40 ASCE and COPRI members were in attendance. Dr. Nikos Kiritsis, Dean of the McNeese State University College of Engineering, also spoke giving a brief update on the engineering program at McNeese. He also announced that the McNeese State ASCE Student Chapter will be hosting the Annual Deep South Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge competition in Lake Charles this Fall. If you are interested in getting involved with this event, please contact us at lcopri@yahoo.com.

On July 23, 2015 the L.COPRI Young Professionals Group (YPG) participated in a guided tour of the West Closure Complex led by Jesse Noel, PE, SLFPA-West Resident Engineer. Nearly 20 L.COPRI YPG members were on hand to observe the operators exercise the sector gate and pumps of the world's largest drainage pumping station.

In September, National COPRI's P3 for Waterways Infrastructure Subcommittee conducted a workshop on Public-Private-Partnerships (P3) at the USACE New Orleans District. The workshop included all of the USACE non-federal / local sponsors such as the port authorities, flood authorities, DOTD, levee districts, CPRA and NGOs. The workshop provided instructions on the implementation of the P3 program as a public-public-private-partnership (P4) where USACE enters into a PPA

Several L.COPRI YPG members toured the West Closure Complex and were L.COPRI hosted a Ports Seminar in Lake Charles to discuss the infrastructure and able to watch its operations exercise

with a non-federal sponsor specifically to procure a P3 project. USACE has been mandated to identify 15 pilot projects under Section 5018 of WRRDA 2014. Over 100 people were invited with over 80 in attendance. The workshop was a great success and projects are now being screened in the civil works program within the New Orleans District. ASCE COPRI's national Waterways Committee established the P3 for Waterways Infrastructure Subcommittee, chaired by the Secretary of L.COPRI Dennis Lambert, with the goals to educate, advocate and facilitate. The committee includes representatives from consulting firms, port authorities, USACE, AAPA, the Waterways Council, Inc. and others. P3 was authorized under WRRDA 2014.

The PORTS '16 Conference will be held in New Orleans June 12-15, 2016 at the New Orleans Marriott. The theme of the conference will be "PORTS: Gateways to a World of Opportunities". Sponsorship and Exhibitor opportunities are currently available; please contact Sean Scully (sscully@asce.org) with any questions about available options. The PORTS Conference series is internationally recognized as an outstanding opportunity to network with hundreds of practitioners, researchers, and specialists at the leading edge of the port engineering profession. For the most up-to-date information, please visit http:// www.portsconference.org/. A student paper competition will be held and is open to all undergraduate and masters students. Submissions are due April 8, 2016. Contact the PORTS '16 Student and Younger Member Committee at copri@asce.org with any questions.

For more information on all COPRI conferences, please visit http:// www.asce.org/coasts-oceans-ports-and-rivers-engineering/coastalengineering-conferences-and-events/.

The activities of L.COPRI will include seminars, workshops and other activities to benefit all ASCE and COPRI members. One does not have to be an Engineer to join COPRI. These Institutes are formed for the benefit of ASCE and non-ASCE members to participate and interact with other professionals interested in coastal, oceans, ports, and riverine efforts in Louisiana. If you have any questions or to add your name to our mailing list, please contact Erin Rooney, at LCOPRI@ vahoo.com.



upcoming economic development of the ports and energy facilities in the region

State Advocacy Captains Visit Washington for Fall Program

By Aaron Castelo (ASCE Staff) and Maria Matthews (ASCE Staff)



First we would like to welcome Nedra Sue Davis as of October 1st to the ASCE National State Government Relations Committee as Region 5 Representative, which is comprised of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Nedra has participated in leading our

kick off program for State Advocacy Captains and was invited back to help lead the fall program. Members from many of ASCE's regions visited ASCE's Washington, D.C. office November 9, 2015 as the second class of the State Advocacy Captains program. A total of 10 members from 10 states attended a daylong training session to learn in-depth information about the government relations program at ASCE and the efforts on ASCE's strategic priorities at the state level. State Government Relations Committee members Region 1 Member Darren Benoit (New Hampshire) and Region 5 Member Nedra Davis (Louisiana) assisted in the training program. State Advocacy Captains are meant to build a bridge between action at the state capitals and

ASCE's State Government Relations Staff as well as promote Section and Branch advocacy activities at the state level. The next class will be held sometime in the Spring of 2016. Please see website for more: http://www.asce.org/issues_and_advocacy/.



Pictured (left to right): Elizabeth Ruedas (California); Joe Meads (Alabama); William Arneson (Nebraska); Tanner Hartranft (Nevada); Darren Williams (Virgina); Maria Matthew (Staff); Aaron Castelo (Staff); Nedra Davis (Louisiana); Travis Barnett (Texas); Darren Benoit (New Hampshire); Christopher Warren (Florida); Tor Anderzen (Alaska); Dennis Richards (Arizona); and Robert Lamoreaux (Utah)

House Passes Six-Year Highway & Transit Bill

By ASCE State Government Relations Staff

On Thursday, newly-minted House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) shepherded through his first piece of major legislation with bipartisan passage of a six-year, \$325 billion surface transportation reauthorization bill. The Surface Transportation Reauthorization & Reform (STRR) Act of 2015 cleared the House by a vote of 363-64. A last-minute amendment was added to STRR that secured an additional \$40 billion in revenue from an unused Federal Reserve account. This means that while the House bill is now funded for a full six-years, it does not increase highway and transit funding levels over the current amount.

ASCE endorsed multiple amendments that were offered to raise the gas tax. However none of those amendments were allowed to receive a full vote on the House floor.

Following the bill's passage, ASCE President Mark W. Woodson, PE, F.ASCE, released a statement saying, "While the House-passed bill provides six years of stability for the nation's road, bridge, and transit programs, it fails to increase funding to levels that are adequate to properly maintain our infrastructure." Woodson went on to state that, "ASCE is disappointed that House leadership prevented a vote on raising the federal gas tax — a policy solution that would have provided long-term funding and certainty that states desperately need to move forward with their transportation projects."

ASCE also weighed-in against a resolution introduced by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL) in support of devolving the federal transportation program to the states. The amendment was defeated 118-310. See how your Representative voted!

Some highlights of the House bill include:

- Multi-year program certainty that will help states and localities better plan and deliver projects;
- Accelerated project delivery reforms aimed to improve collaboration between agencies and create deadlines for agency action(s);
- Providing grants to states for continued and expanded pilot testing of future road user fee collection systems;
- A new competitive grant to address bus and bus facility needs;
- Increased focus on funding for roadway safety infrastructure and on the safety needs of rural roads; and,
- An option for localities to bundle small projects such as bridges to increase efficiency.

The House vote follows previous Senate action in July on their surface transportation bill, which provided only three years of funding although at much higher levels. Now the House and Senate will work to negotiate a compromise before the looming November 20 deadline. ASCE will be reviewing the House and Senate bills to determine which provisions we favor to be included in any final agreement. On funding, ASCE urges a final bill be multi-year with sizable funding increases for highway and transit programs. In the coming weeks, ASCE will continue to engage with our members in our advocacy effort to #FixTheTrustFund. Thank you for all you have done to support the Society's advocacy efforts!

ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter News

By Joffrey Easley, PE - Newsletter Editor



New Officers

The 8th year of the T&DI Louisiana Section began on October 1st, 2015. Currently, the membership is composed of 16 Executive Committee members and 8 corresponding members. The Executive Committee includes members from across the state, with representatives from the consulting industry, academia, governmental agencies, and the construction industry. With a new year comes a new group of officers. Our 2015-2016 Chairman is Ronald Schumann, Jr., PE, who served as Vice Chairman last year. Bill Temple, PE will assume the role of Vice Chairman, Jim Simmons, PE will continue to serve as Treasurer, and Joffrey Easley, PE will again serve as Newsletter Editor. Our outgoing Chairman, Michael Paul, PE, has done a tremendous job and has provided many years of officer service, including multiple years as Newsletter Editor, prior to serving as Chairman.

LADOTD BDEM and Revised Concrete Specification Seminar

On October 22nd, the T&DI Louisiana Chapter hosted a follow-up seminar on the recently published LADOTD Bridge Design and Evaluation Manual (BDEM) and the soon to be updated Concrete Materials Specification. The seminar was held at the University of New Orleans. T&DI previously hosted a seminar on this topic in Baton Rouge, but due to the record number of attendees, it was decided to hold it again in the New Orleans area. The speakers were Zhengzheng "Jenny" Fu, PE, who is an Assistant Bridge Design Administrator with LADOTD and Tyson Rupnow, PE, who is a Senior Concrete Research Engineer with the Louisiana Transportation Research Center. Ms. Fu presented on the organizational changes and major provisions of the BDEM and Mr. Rupnow discussed the upcoming changes to the concrete specifications.

Louisiana ITS

The T&DI Louisiana Chapter also hosted a seminar on November 18th at the TTEC Auditorium on LSU's campus. The seminar provided an overview of the existing ITS infrastructure in Baton Rouge, as well as some planned improvement projects. The seminar also presented on-going research on connected vehicles that is taking place using the LSU Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Driving Simulator. The speaker was Dr. Sherif Ishak, PE, Professor and Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Engineering at LSU.

2015-2016 Scholarship Program

The T&DI Louisiana Chapter scholarship program is now in its fourth year. Two \$500 scholarships are awarded to deserving junior and senior university students that intend to pursue a career in the field of transportation. Applicants are required to provide a transcript along with two academic recommendations, as well as an essay regarding their interest in transportation studies. Funding for these scholarships comes from a portion of our seminar proceeds. The scholarship subcommittee is composed of Dr. Louay Mohammad, Om Dixit, PE, and Dan Aucutt, PE

The intent of T&DI is to promote transportation and development as a career path, and to provide training and networking opportunities for all professionals involved in transportation projects. If you are interested in co-sponsoring a seminar at your branch, the T&DI Louisiana Chapter has prepared a Seminar Coordinator's Check List to assist you in your preparation. Contact Ronald Schumann, Jr., at ronald.l.schumann@aecom.com for a copy of the checklist. Our seminars are two hours in length and are typically presented from 5:30-7:30 pm in either the New Orleans or Baton Rouge area. We have also presented out-reach seminars with the ASCE Acadiana Branch and Shreveport Branch. We are open to co-hosting seminars in additional Louisiana cities if requested. In keeping with the intent of the Institute to provide training and networking opportunities for all professionals involved in transportation projects, the Chapter is planning the following future seminars:

- Mitigation Banking
- Complete Streets
- New Pavement Design / Empirical Methods
- Pavement Engineering (Part 3 of 3) Application of Earthwork and Embankment Materials

Editorial in De Bow (1859) on True Hydraulic Engineering Skill

By W. A. Sholten

True Hydraulic Engineering Skill, is, for Louisiana, a matter of much importance, and when so many emergencies may arise from the river or from the sea, we should have it always at hand. It is as necessary for protection against tides and overflows, for the best development of our numberless water courses, for draining our

swamplands, and making them healthy and productive, as for improving the dry field, the subsoil of which is too often filled with stagnant water and putrid humidity, injurious to vegetation and to human life.

Mons. R. Thomassy, whose name has often appeared in our pages, has become a permanent resident of Louisiana, and is giving much attention to the subject of our rivers and their overflows, our levees, embankments, and drainage, and writes often and well upon the subject. He advocates, with ability, the opinion that the Mississippi itself may be used, through its copious sedimentary deposits, as an ample and abundant menus of reclaiming and protecting our lowlands, and furnishes us a letter to the same effect, from one of the most scientific and experienced engineers of Holland, a country in many respects similar to Louisiana. We give the letter:

Mons. R. Thomassy, at M. Thomassy's, member of the Imperial Court, Paris:

Sir: I have read with much pleasure your letters concerning the draining of marshes in Louisiana, and 1 agree with you on the proposed system of colmates.

The other system (system of embankments) has great difficulties, because it is an unfit system—a terrible violation of the laws of nature.

Before the construction of embankments, the waters of the rivers spread themselves over a large surface, and did not rise (far from it) to the height they reach now. But mod each one built up, separately, embankments around his possessions, or some neighbors gathered together to surround their fields with a common embankment; so that separated little Polders were formed. It was only at the beginning of the fourteenth century that commissions for embankments were organized, and that the embankments were placed under a common government, and put by the Comtes [Counts] or Ducs of Gualdre [Dukes] under their own jurisdiction or ban (whence the name of Bandyk is derived).

Firstly, the embankments were low; but, from time to time, they were elevated and enlarged. During recent years, the embankments

of the Betuwe [river situated situated between the Waal and Rhine in the Dutch province Gelderland], the Wahal [or Waal, branch of river Rhine], and the Rhine, have been raided considerably. Works of fascines [pipes] and creche [tables] in the rivers are from time to time augmented. From all this the situation of the river has, without

doubt, become more injurious to the Polders. It has added to the elevation of the water, and has contributed to the great number of crevasses and overflows which makes one look with anxiety to the future, however strong may be the measures adopted.

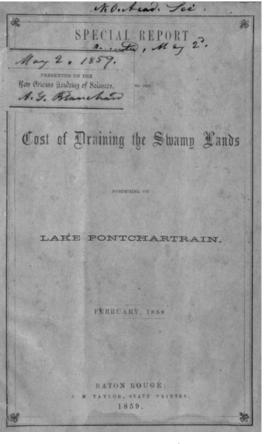
From thin short historical resume, one may see clearly that the system of embankment was, from the first, a terrible error against the laws of nature, which are never violated with impunity, either by ignorance or egotism. As to the soil of Polders, it is still what it was of old, and has become from time to time, by the solid and slimy elements which the rivers carry there by their yearly Inundations. In stopping these inundations, the country was deprived of the benefit which the rivers were granting anew every year. This loss was instantly accompanied with many difficulties and dangers, which were increasing as the people persevered under that bad system.

Our ancestors have shut up their country and districts in kinds of caves, as if that

state of things could remain so forever without changing! In not perceiving that these countries were overflowed and enriched in advance by the mud during the winter, as well as augmented and raised up from time to time, they have caused the loss of this precious mud into the rivers, into the sea, and elsewhere, whilst their lands were sinking down each day more and more. Yes, it is already so much so that they must now turn the water several leagues distant, by a double play of windmills, to carry it up to the river as to a garret, when in former times the country was drying itself with water gates.

Although the system of embankments is still maintained, and though there are different reasons which may still compel their existence, it is, and it remains still, a dangerous system, and I prefer much more your system of colmates. But what to do now 'It is too late. I send you herewith a part of what I promised you, and in return, I recommend myself, and hope to receive, from time to time, such good advices like those you have given me.

Accept, sir, my sincere regards. W. A. Sholten



Branch News

ACADIANA BRANCH

By Garland Pennison, PE, Branch President

The Acadiana Branch was represented by Garland Pennison at the September 20-21 President and Governor's Forum at ASCE Headquarters in Reston, VA. Also in attendance from Louisiana was ASCE President-Elect-Elect Dr. Norma Jean Mattei and Jeff Duplantis. As ASCE President Bob Stevens delivered his closing remarks to our group with Norma Jean at his side, their pride in the civil engineering profession and ASCE was evident. We are grateful for their dedication and leadership.

Acadiana Branch held its October luncheon at Abacus with Jessica Cornay presenting on the new Unified Development Code adopted by the Lafayette Consolidated Government. The new design standards and codes will take effect December 7 of this year. New design and inspection requirements for street and drainage improvements in Lafayette Parish will require engineers to comply and provide certified inspection.

New officers for Acadiana were installed at the October luncheon. Shown from left to right are Jared Veazey, Secretary; Garland Pennison, President; Beau Tate, Past President; Sarah Richard, President-Elect; and, Sasan Daneshvar, Treasurer.

Acadiana Branch supports both the ULL and McNeese student chapters. ULL held a late September fall function at Girard Park that was well attended by both students and professionals. A cajun dinner social with presentations on the I-49 Connector and Lafayette Airport projects will be held November 10 at Rougeau Hall on the ULL campus. The Deep South Conference will be at McNeese University this year and Jessica Trahan, past student president is leading that effort. Anyone that has participated in past conferences and can volunteer their time and resources is encouraged to contact Jessica Trahan at jessicat@fenstermaker.com.







BATON ROUGE BRANCH

By Danielle Welborn, PE. Branch President

First and foremost, I would like to thank Kirk Lowery – a dedicated, kindhearted, hardworking engineer who showed me each month what it meant to be a true leader. He was determined and driven to increase membership and focused his efforts on engaging the students and younger members – the future of our profession – by investing time and money into the student chapters and younger member socials for growth and retention. Thank you, Kirk!

I am thrilled and honored to serve as your 2015 – 2016 President and blessed to have a Board who has already proven to be energetic, innovative, and enthusiastic about this year. Kirk Lowery as Past President + Kahli Cohran as President Elect and interim Southern Practitioner Advisor + Blake Roussel as Vice President + Sarah Laakso as Secretary/Treasurer + Jarret Bauer as Director of Programs + Ben McArdle as Director of Education + Molly Bourgoyne as Membership Chair + Thomas Montz as Younger Member Chair + Tyler Branch as LSU Practitioner Advisor equals SUCCESS! These engineers are passionate about their careers and are eagerly volunteering time to serve on this Board. We have created ASCE email addresses for each position (available on the Branch website) and we encourage you to contact us with questions, concerns, and even ideas for activities, speakers, topics, etc. We are here to serve our members and are open to your suggestions! We'd love to hear from vou!

Congratulations to the 2015 Baton Rouge Branch Award Winners! We have some outstanding members and we were honored to present the winners their plaques at the September and October luncheons.

Outreach Award - Sarah Laakso* Outstanding Civil Engineering Educator Award – Jongwon Jung Outstanding Young Civil Engineer Award - Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III* Outstanding Civil Engineer Award - Carol Friedland Lifetime Achievement Award – Ronald J. Rodi ASCE Civil Engineering Wall of Fame Award – George Z. Voyiadjis

*Rudy Simoneaux and Sarah Laakso also received the Section award for Outstanding Young Civil Engineer and Outreach Award, respectively. Congratulations again to our award recipients!

In addition to the Branch awards, we presented Mr. Robert Overall

with his Life Member certificate and pin, an honor received for having 35+ years of membership and service to ASCE.

Gasper Chifici, Jesse Arnold, and George Webb also received this recognition but were not able to attend the September meeting. Congratulations to our new Life Members and thank you for your commitment to ASCE!

The October luncheon was held at

Patrick F. Taylor Engineering Building Renovation and Expansion project. The project is the largest in LSU's history and once complete, will allow all engineering departments to be housed in one building on campus. Following the presentation, the members toured the construction site with the LSU Project Manager. The Operations Manager and Superintendent for The Lemoine Company, the general contractor for the project, were also in attendance at the presentation and offered insight into the ongoing construction.

Kahli Cohran hosted a tailgate for the civil engineering students of Southern University the weekend of Southern's homecoming. Over 50 students attended the tailgate and were encouraged to join ASCE. Reestablishing and stabilizing the Southern student chapter of ASCE is a goal of the Branch this year. They have a great group of seniors but they are graduating in the spring so we are encouraging freshman and sophomores to get involved.

The November luncheon will be at Juban's where Ram Jack will present an engineering topic about helical pilings and anchors. We ask that you bring nonperishable canned goods that will be donated to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. For each canned good you bring in, you will be entered into a drawing for a Juban's gift card.

We are thrilled to host the annual Christmas Party at Bocage Racquet Club again this year. The party will be on Friday, December 4 and all of our members and a guest are invited to attend. We look forward to spending time with you and your guest.

The past few years, the Baton Rouge Branch has hosted a Career Fair for the LSU and SU student chapters of ASCE. We are eagerly hosting it again in March 2016 in Patrick F. Taylor so please keep an eye out for more information about how to purchase a booth. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to practice their networking skills, and it's very beneficial for the companies who attend as they get first pick at the cream-of-the-crop of civil engineering students. In past experience, the students who attend the career fair are the leaders of the pack and likely to make a significant contribution to your company!

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your President for this year. I look forward to a great year!



Louisiana State University. The members L to R: Kirk Lowery, Blake Roussel, Danielle Welborn, Sarah Laakso, Jarret Bauer, Molly Bourgoyne, received an update on the \$110 million Tyler Branch, Ben McArdle, Kahli Cohran, and Thomas Montz

NEW ORLEANS BRANCH

By Wesley Eustis, PE, Branch President

Our new leadership group has hit the ground running and October has been a busy month for our branch. We started with a luncheon presentation from Kenner Mayor and Jefferson Parish President Elect Michael Yenni. Mayor Yenni gave a wonderful presentation on the state of the City of Kenner and was very gracious in letting our members know how vital a part we play in his community.

Later in the month it was off to New York City for the ASCE National Convention. Many new faces were met and insightful talks were heard on topics from resilience to green infrastructure. However, the highlight of the trip was seeing the induction of our very own branch member Norma Jean Mattei PhD., PE as the ASCE National President-Elect. It was a proud moment for the New Orleans Branch.



November will see many events for our branch. Jon Hasty from Ram Jack will be presenting at our November luncheon on the topic of foundation repair and remediation. Our Younger Members group will also be hosting a November presentation on Financial Management for Young Professionals.

Our branch officers for the 2015-1016 term are as follows:

President-Wesley Eustis, PE
Past President - Lee Alexander, PE, F.ASCE
Vice President-Steve Nelson, PE
President-Elect-Tonja Koob, PE
Secretary-Robert Delaune, PE
Treasurer-Karishma Desai, PE
Director-at-Large Dean Nicoladis, PE
Director-at-Large Myriam Bou-Mekhayel
Younger Member Chair-Andrew Woodroof, PE



SHREVEPORT BRANCH

By Chris Myers, PE, Branch President

I would like to start my presidency by thanking all the individuals, from family, friends and colleagues, who gave me the support throughout my life to make it to this moment. Thank You! I also would like to thank David Smith for his past years of service to our branch and for his continuation of support as a past branch president. I am very excited to start the new calendar year and can't wait to see what we have ahead. This late spring/early fall has been very mild from years past and getting us all ready to beat the heat with outdoor festivities and travel. One of our goals this year is to get recent graduate students to transition to young members.

The Shreveport Branch was well represented by if fellow Shreveport Area members at the 2014-2015 Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation with:

This year the Shreveport Branch will host the 2016 ASCE Louisiana Spring Conference. Mitch Guy, past-president of Shreveport Branch, has taken lead point for this conference by serving as Conference Chairman. We are still currently planning the event and a date will be announced soon, but will most likely be in April 2016. If you would like to be a speaker or know someone that would please email your contact information to: ASCE.Shreveport@gmail.com.

With the new year also comes new officers. The new ASCE Shreveport Branch officers for the 2015-2016 year are as follows:

President – Chris Myers, PE President-Elect – Jared Boogaerts, El Treasurer – Tim Wright, El Secretary – Joy Etkins, El

The Shreveport Branch October meeting, which was held on October 22, 2015 was a success and I would like to thank Christina Bajewski, PE from Product Manager and Technical Engineered Products for her presentation on *Concrete Cloth*. If you would like more information about our Branch please send us an email at ASCE.Shreveport@gmail.com and we will forward you to our monthly newsletter that includes the latest events.



Left to right: Chris Myers, Patrick Furlong, Matthew Redmon, Ali Mustapha

ASCE-SEI New Orleans Chapter News

By Om Dixit, PE, FASCE, F-SEI



The ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter has continued hosting and planning seminars and workshops in April and May. Two more seminars were held at University of New Orleans.

Every year SEI NO helps host committee in arranging the sessions dealing with structural presentations and also arranges the Annual Herbert J. Roussel, Jr. Lecture at Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show. This lecture is to honor the late Herbert J. Roussel, Jr. who was one of the founding members of ASCE Structural Committee of New Orleans Branch and served on its Executive Committee 1991-2005. Since 2006 each year a distinguished presenter is selected by the Structural Engineering Institute Chapter of New Orleans (SEI NO) to deliver this Lecture.

This year the Annual Herbert J. Roussel, Jr. Lecture was presented by Vitaly Feygin, PE, Marine and Industrial Consultants, Petersburg, Florida. The title of the lecture was *Performance Based Design of* Flexible and Semi-Flexible Dolphins and Piers. This Lecture covered several aspects associated with the design of semi -flexible and flexible dolphin systems insufficiently covered by Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses (PIANC) and national marine codes. Mr. Feygin also discussed the Geotechnical Conditions (Why Flexible Dolphins?), Fender selection conflicts, Review of US and Australian Codes, Flexible and Semi-Flexible Dolphins, Review of Guidelines for the Design of Fender Systems (PIANC WG-33) requirements, concept of capacity protected elements, and design of Flexible Dolphins.

On October 8, 2015, SEI NO invited David Biggs, PE, SE of Biggs Consulting Engineering, Saratoga, NY, to present a 2 hour seminar on "Practical Applications of Structural Engineering Design for

Historic Structures and Modern Brick Masonry". The first half of the presentation involved historic structures in Turkey, Iraq and Nepal. In each site, there are structural engineering challenges associated with developing stabilization and restoration designs. Mr. Biggs highlighted examples of the on-going work in these countries and reviewed evaluation and restoration design methods for masonry walls damaged by earthquake, designing restoration access structures, international references useful to practicing engineers, and the design of temporary stabilization for historic buildings. The second half of the seminar demonstrated how to design and detail modern reinforced brick masonry beams for use in load bearing masonry buildings as well as within steel framed buildings using the US masonry standard, "TMS 402, ACI 530, ASCE 5, Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures".

Other topics for the future seminars include Simplified Seismic Design for Louisiana, Embedded Anchor Design, Steel Design-Connections/joints and many more.

The committee is looking for good topics and speakers for future presentations. Members with expertise in the field of structural engineering would be welcome to join the Executive Committee. For any suggestion and information on joining the Executive Committee, contact Chairman L.T. Cooper, PE, at LTCOOPER@edg. net.

All seminars are held at the University of New Orleans. Seminar dates and pertinent information on registration or addition of your name to the emailing list can be requested by e-mailing to Om P. Dixit, PE at omdixit@cox.net.



SEI NO Chapter Chairman L. T. Cooper, PE, (right) presenting the appreciation plaque to Vitaly Feygin, PE for delivering the 2015 Herbert J Roussel, Jr SEI NO Chapter Chairman L. T. Cooper, PE, (right) Conference and Show on September 23, 2015



Lecture at 2015 Louisiana Civil Engineering presenting the Past Chairman plaque to Zolan Prucz, PhD, PE



Seminar Coordinator Jay Jani, PhD, PE, (on left) with Speaker David Biggs, PE, SE (on right) at SEI New Orleans Chapter hosted Seminar on October 8, 2015

Student Chapter News

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

By Gabrielle Dubroc, Student Chapter Secretary

ASCE at LSU has been busy this fall semester with our bi-monthly student chapter meetings, holding an election for the 2016 student chapter officers, attending community service events, and touring the Patrick F. Taylor construction site on LSU's campus. The chapter has held six meetings so far, featuring guest speakers from Jones and Carter, the ASCE Baton Rouge branch, Kiewit, GeoEngineers, Volkert, and ASCE COPRI.

Officer Elections were held at our fourth meeting on September 29, 2015. The new officers will be instated at the end-of-the-semester banquet in December. The officer positions for 2016 are as follows:

President - Gabrielle Dubroc
Vice President - Jeremy Vezina
Secretary - Breanna Bell
Treasurer - Enrico Targa
Meeting Coordinator - Jaden Gillespie
Community Service Chair - Mason Moran
Fundraising Chair - Megan Corzo
Webmaster - Mitch Everhardt

Our ASCE student chapter joined the Louisiana Water Environment Association (LWEA) student members for a community service event to clean up the LSU lakes on October 11, 2015. A total of 24 students participated in removing debris and trash around the lakes and the surrounding areas.

In conjunction with the ASCE Baton Rouge Branch, ASCE student members attended a luncheon featuring the \$110 million Patrick F. Taylor Hall renovation and expansion project. Guest speakers Roger Husser, Director of Planning, Design, and Construction for LSU Facility Services, and Mike Lemoine, Operations Manager for the Lemoine Company, spoke of the current construction progress made in the renovations and expansion and of the future phases in construction. A tour of the perimeter of the construction site followed the meeting, guided by Roger Husser.

To learn more about our ASCE chapter at LSU, please <u>visit asce.lsu.edu</u>.



LSU Lake Clean-Up, October 11, 2015



Rendering of Completed Patrick F. Taylor Hall - East Elevation (courtesy of LSU College of Engineering)

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

By Sarah Pippen, Student Chapter President

The UL ASCE student chapter has had an eventful fall semester thus far. The officers have been meeting since the first week of school to make sure all events are a success, and so far it has been going great. Our first big event was the annual barbeque on September 15th. The Acadiana ASCE Branch was kind enough to donate the pavilion we used for this event, and it was a huge success. We had many students and professionals attend to eat great food and socialize with one another. The UL Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) Chapter hosts sports tournaments for all engineering departments to compete in throughout the year. So far, our team, The Shear Studs have competed in volleyball and flag football. Our sports coordinator, Austin Kittok, gathered many students to participate and attend practices for each sport; they were able to take 3rd in volleyball, and 1st in flag football. At the end of each spring semester, points from various LES events will be tallied for "Department of the Year". We plan to continue to draw participation in order to compete for this title. Our meetings this semester have seen the most success of all. The chapter was very excited to host a meeting in September informing all new and old members of our Deep South competition. Our teams continue to work hard this semester, and we are very happy to have eager new members for all of our teams. Our most recent meeting was conducted alongside the UL Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Dr. Sun, ITE advisor and a civil engineering professor at UL, invited Nick

Broussard, a UL Civil Engineer alumni, to come speak at this meeting. We also had the pleasure of hearing from Mr. Steve Strength, a former DOTD employee. The best part, however, was the Mock Traffic Bowl; all students at the meeting participated, competing for the first to eat the food provided by the UL ITE chapter! . Last but not least, the UL ASCE student chapter participated in the Big Event, which is a school-wide community service project put on by UL Lafayette, and The United Way of Acadiana. UL ASCE got a team together to help with Project FrontYard, a city wide beautification project. All trash picked up throughout the day was put into letters for all of Lafayette to see. As future civil engineers, we know that any and all work put into helping our environment is important. Overall, this semester has been filled with hard work and excitement; we hope to have this success follow us into the Spring.

2015-2016 Student Chapter Officers:

President: Sarah Pippen Vice President: Rachel Ducote Secretary: Jeanne Zeringue Treasurer: Jonathan Trahan

Events Coordinator: Tommy Philayvanh

LES Liaison: Austin Kittok Conference Chair: Jacob Medus







LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

By Seth Strong, Student Chapter President

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Chapter at Louisiana Tech University is working diligently to have another successful year. Recently, the dates for the annual Deep South Conference were announced, and the chapter quickly began preparing for competition; the conference is scheduled on the second weekend of March. Aside from conference, the chapter has also began scheduling and planning quarterly events.

In preparation for the Deep South Conference, the Concrete Canoe and the Steel Bridge team captains have begun their designing phases. The Concrete Canoe Captain, Katie Lybrand, has been studying different canoe hull designs that will increase the maneuverability of the canoe during races. Meanwhile, the Mix Captain, Andrew LeBlanc, has been creating different mix designs which will increase the strength of the concrete while maintaining a low density. Our Steel Bridge co-captains, Dakota Hill and John Long, are designing this year's bridge in hopes of making an appearance at nationals again this year.

The Louisiana Tech ASCE chapter has recently held their first interest meeting to prompt more involvement. The meeting was a success, and the chapter gained about 20 new members. At this meeting, President Mary Voisin proposed bringing a guest speaker with experience in the field of Transportation Engineering to inform the members what is involved in transportation/ highway engineering. Louisiana Tech's Engineering and Science Association

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS

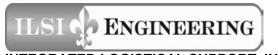
By Kelsey Martin, Student Chapter President

Over the past few months, the University of New Orleans ASCE has been focusing on increasing membership and funding, while providing members with opportunities to learn more about the engineering profession. We currently have over 40 student members and have received sponsorships from a variety of local business. We have had regular monthly meetings with a few guest speakers, including LT Cooper from EDG engineering and Rudy Simoneaux from CPRA, and we have guest speakers from the engineering field scheduled for every month until the end of the school year. Our members have also toured a few construction sites in the area, including the PCCP pump station project on London Avenue and the Westbank Expressway Manhattan Avenue onramp expansion. We also manned a booth at the Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show, where members were able to meet professionals in the construction and engineering fields.

We are currently preparing for the 2016 ASCE Deep South Conference by organizing teams to work on the steel bridge and concrete canoe competitions. We are looking forward to representing the University of New Orleans at the competition.

(ESA) has decided to hold a COES Cup Competition against all the COES organizations, and ASCE will be participating! One event the chapter will collaborate with ESA on is a community service activity in October at Ruston's Farmers Market. The activity will involve a 10 minute science project with children while their parents shop. Lastly, the Louisiana Tech ASCE Chapter will be attending Gumbo Fest to showcase our Canoe and Steel Bridge.

The Louisiana Tech ASCE Chapter had a plethora of setbacks last year with our planning, but this year our teams will use experience gained from the setbacks to make us better prepared. Both teams are off to an early and strong start and are excited to see what the new school year has in store.



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— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —					
	DECEMBER 2015				
December 10-11, 2015	Law School for Civil Engineers – Orlando, FL				
	FEBRUARY 2016				
February 12-13, 2016 Regions 1, 2, 4 & 5 Multi-Region Leadership Conference – Pittsburgh, PA, US http://www.asce.org/event/2016/regions-1-2-4-and-5-multi-region-leadership-conference/					
	MARCH 2016				
March 14-15, 2016	Deep Foundations: Design, Construction, and Quality Control – Orlando, FL				
March 14-15, 2016	Liability of Engineers: How to Stay out of Trouble – Orlando, FL				
March 14-15, 2016	Modern Bridge Construction: A TransDisciplinary Challenge — NEW – Orlando, FL				
March 14-15, 2016	Streambank Stabilization for Restoration and Flood Control Projects – Orlando, FL				
March 14-15, 2016	Structural-Condition Assessment of Existing Structures – Orlando, FL				
March 17-18, 2016	Earth-Retaining Structures: Selection, Design, Construction, and Inspection — Now in an LRFD Design Platform — Orlando, FL				
March 17-18, 2016	Fundamentals of Earthquake Engineering – Orlando, FL				
March 17-18, 2016	Leadership Development for the Engineer – Orlando, FL				
March 17-18, 2016	Structural Engineering of a 4-Story, Combined Material Building Using the 2015 International Building Code — NEW – Orlando, FL				
March 17-18, 2016	TwoDimensional Modeling using HEC-RAS—NEW – Orlando, FL				

For more events visit the ASCE Events Calendar: http://www.lasce.org/#about

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