

LOUISIANA CIVIL ENGINEER

Journal of the Louisiana Section

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FEATURE:

The Louisiana TIMED
Program: Progress Delivered

NEWS:

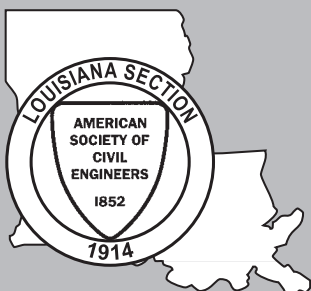
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The Louisiana Section is located in ASCE Region 5 that consists of the Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida Sections.

President's Message

By Kurt M. Nixon, PE, PLS

I want to thank the membership of the Louisiana Section of ASCE for its trust and confidence in allowing me to serve as the new Section President. It is both a responsibility and privilege for which I am eager to take on. I want to start by thanking those who have gone before me and built this Section into what it currently is. We truly have a remarkable Section! This is due entirely to the active involvement of our members. The time and resources each of you volunteer in the Branches, the Institutes, the Student Chapters, and with the Section help to make this section great. With that said, I do want to single out a few individuals for praise. First I want to thank the immediate Past President's who I have observed, learned from, and enjoyed working under: Christopher Knotts, PE; Patrick Landry, PE; and Ronald Schumann, PE. Each of these men has sacrificed and volunteered to better our profession and our communities. I can also testify that while I know they are happy with the title of Past-President they have continued to give of their time and energy on behalf of our profession. Next I would like to specifically thank Nedra Davis our journal editor for the last five years. Nedra faithfully attends every board meeting, conference, and function of the section no matter the location; deals with late journal articles; and, frustrating printers – yet consistently delivers an award winning Louisiana Section Journal. Final I would like to thank the incoming officers who will be serving with me this year. I will be leaning on this last group regularly over the next year to build up the section and benefit the members. These are not figurehead positions and require regular work and sacrifice for the Louisiana Section to conduct its business efficiently and effectively.

On September 7th, 2012 the Shreveport Branch hosted the Annual Section Installation & Awards Banquet. Over 45 members attended the event, which honors the outstanding accomplishments of our members throughout the state. This has truly become one of my favorite events over the last few years! Hearing about the amazing lives and accomplishments of our members right here in Louisiana inspires and encourages me to press on and reach new professional goals. The secondary purpose of this meeting is the installation of the Louisiana Section officers for 2012-2013. They are President Elect: Robert W. Jacobson, PE; Vice President: Pamela A. Gonzales, PE; Secretary/Treasurer: Christopher G. Humphreys, PE. Please see the installation and awards section on pages 13-16 of this issue.

As many of you know this last year and a half one of the primary focuses of the Section's energy has been the composition of the first Louisiana Section Report Card. This was a tremendous undertaking to gather data on the condition of Louisiana's infrastructure, summarize and pull conclusions of those findings, and then concisely communicate those findings to the public and

governing officials. The final documents are an effective tool for communicating the conditions and needs of our infrastructure to the general public. Thanks again to all of those who made that undertaking a success.

During this next year my desire is to focus on giving back to the members and increasing the value and benefit of being a member of the Louisiana Section. A question I have been asking others and myself lately is, "Why are you a member of ASCE?" Is it professional development, the opportunity to serve, networking, project recognition, or simply socializing with a similar group of "slightly nerdy" engineer types? For me, it is all of the above. I would love for you to share your reason for being a member with me at knixon@nixoneng.com. Similarly, if you have ideas for serving and benefiting the members of our Louisiana Section please send me an email.

One idea, which was brought up to me, is the hosting of a onetime PDH luncheon meeting by the Louisiana Section in one of the areas not readily accessible to a regular Branch meeting such as Monroe, Lake Charles, Alexandria, or Mandeville/Covington. Please contact me if you live and work in one of these areas and are interested in working with me to bring a meeting to your area.

Finally, I want to thank you again for the honor and opportunity of serving as the Section President for the upcoming year. I will strive to give my best in this capacity for the next year. In accomplishing this goal, I will ultimately be counting on the same thing which has always made our Section standout, it members!



Kurt M. Nixon, PE, PLS



ASCE Region 5 Director's Letter

By Bill Grogan, PhD, PE



Bill Grogan, PhD, PE

Dear Region 5 members,

The Region 5 Board of Governors (R5BoG) attended the ASCE National Convention in Montreal as one of our annual, face-to-face meetings. We aim for at least three such meetings a year. The benefit of having one meeting at the National Convention, which actually is an international event, is it allows our Governors to interact with members and officers from around the world. We also participated in the ASCE's annual business meeting, at which new directors and our new president, Greg DiLoreto, were installed. Greg's inaugural speech dovetailed nicely with the opening plenary session, Lead by Example, presented by David Lapin. Greg's passion and vision for the Society were clear and motivating.

The R5BoG has been asked to come up with best practices to share with other Regions. We came up with several examples. I'd like to share them with you because they reflect the things the R5BoG has been working on and believes are important.

A summary:

- **A workshop on how to put together a Section report card:** This led to the Mississippi Section developing and unveiling its first report card, and to the Louisiana Section updating and unveiling a new one.
- **Awards reminders:** We are developing a system in which Section officers will receive timely reminders of upcoming opportunities to nominate well-deserving individuals for national awards.
- **Locations of R5BoG meetings:** As I mentioned previously, we try to leverage the opportunity of interacting with the entire ASCE by holding one meeting during the National Convention. Similarly, we hold at least one gathering during a Region 5 Section meeting (this year it will be in Florida) and invite officers from all Sections in Region 5 to participate, therefore fostering cross-region communication.
- **Director's Letters:** The intent is to provide straightforward, useful information from the national level. These letters are shared with each Section and disseminated in the most appropriate and easy way.
- **Sharing of web space:** Rather than creating a Region web page with additional e-mail messages, we provide information for Sections to share on their own web pages.

We always are looking for ways to provide better communication and address issues of concern. Please do not hesitate to contact your Region Governor or me with issues or questions.

Bill Grogan, PhD, PE, M. ASCE
Director, Region 5
William.p.grogan@usace.army.mil

P.S. Remember your R5BoG is made up of seven folks willing and able to help. They are:

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ASCE National Conference - Montreal, Canada

By Joey Coco, PE and Nedra Davis, MA

The ASCE 142nd Annual Civil Engineering Conference was held in Montréal, Canada in October 2012. The annual conference has historically brought together civil engineers from across the globe to discuss big picture topics that affect the field of civil engineering, to exchange leadership positions within the society, and to recognize leaders. The conference was well attended by Louisiana engineers. In attendance to represent Louisiana were Joey Coco, Nedra Davis, Kam Movassaghi, Rudy Simoneaux, Kurt Nixon, Ron Rodi, Jim Mohr, and Norma Jean Mattei. Outgoing ASCE National President Andy Hermann welcomed the incoming President Gregory DiLoreto. Andy's address to the society discussed some of the major activities that our organization participated in over the past year. Notably, Andy discussed the important role that ASCE played to support the recent transportation bill, MAP 21. He noted that the passage of the bill was bittersweet for ASCE. It was a reason for the society to celebrate, but also a time to reflect on how much more work we need to do to truly address our infrastructure problems. Andy announced the upcoming release of the 2013 Infrastructure Report Card, along with several new "Failure to Act" economic studies. He emphasized that Report cards and Failure to Act documents, when used in combination, are powerful tools for getting the message to the public about the current condition and benefit of our infrastructure. Drawing upon experiences from our Louisiana Section Infrastructure Report Card, Joey Coco presented at the conference in a session titled "How to Develop a State Report Card and What to Do With It Afterwards." The session, moderated by National ASCE representatives, Dale Nelson, State Government Relations and Emily Fishkin, Senior Manager, Infrastructure

Initiatives, was well attended and Joey and Nedra received many questions regarding the report card process and lessons learned. The session presented lessons learned from Government Relations efforts to increase awareness for and funding of infrastructure and legislative changes that impact the practice of Civil Engineering on a State level. In addition to the sessions, a technical tour was offered to the Lachine Canal, where participants learned the historical lock was of the same design as Leonardo Da Vinci's. The Conference offered up to 21 Professional Development Hours (PDH) of continuing education delivered via Short Courses, Technical Tours and General Sessions. For the 142nd year in a row, the Annual Civil Engineering Conference provided Louisiana participants with valuable educational topics and an excellent professional networking opportunity. Don't miss next years' opportunity for the ASCE 143rd Annual Civil Engineering Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, October 10-12, 2013. Please check the national website for more information to come at www.asce.org.



Technical tour of the Lachine Canal, Montréal Canada, where participants learned the historical lock was of the same design as Leonardo Da Vinci's



The Louisiana TIMED Program: Progress Delivered

By Stephen Spohrer, PE, Program Director, Louisiana TIMED Program
and Darrel W. Cole, Communications Director, Louisiana TIMED Program

Introduction:

We hope readers will enjoy the article below about the history of Louisiana TIMED Program. It is a story about the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) delivering on the promise of progress. Decades ago, it was an idea, and through the determination and will of many professionals, elected leaders and government officials, it became reality, and now has almost entirely been implemented. On behalf of Louisiana TIMED Managers, a joint venture of G.E.C., Inc., Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc., and THE LPA GROUP INCORPORATED, we are glad to share the incredible stories of those who started the program and others who pushed forward to see it succeed. We are honored to be part of this program.

-Steve Spohrer, TIMED Program Director



TIMED: The Early Years

Neil Wagoner, PE, made engineering and civil service his career calling, wanting to make a difference in the lives of everyday people. He started out in the Louisiana Highway Department as an intern while attending Louisiana Technological University. When he retired in 1987 after almost 30 years (lastly as assistant secretary in charge of highways) he wasn't expecting to make a comeback.

But when the call came from Governor Buddy Roemer in 1988, he agreed to listen, with a few demands of his own.

"I spent long enough in the Department to know firsthand how far behind we were in funding our transportation system," said Wagoner. "It was frustrating to see the system fall so far behind. So when I agreed to come back, investing in transportation was foremost on my mind and the governor supported that mission. We got moving right away on a number of fronts."

Flash forward to 2012, and a program that started with Wagoner's vision 24 years ago is 99% complete. The Louisiana Transportation Infrastructure Model for Economic Development (TIMED) included more than 536 miles of 2-lane roads widened to 4-lane highways; completion of the first new Mississippi River crossing in decades connecting St. Francisville/West Feliciana to Point Coupee/New Roads; widening the Huey P. Long Bridge in Jefferson Parish, a crucial rail and traffic bridge over the Mississippi River; and improving the Louis Armstrong International Airport in New Orleans and the Port of New Orleans.

"The concept and the champion of the TIMED Program early on was Neil," said Bob Boagni, PE, of G.E.C. Inc who was with DOTD when the TIMED Program began until he left in 2005 as the chief of design overseeing the program. "Neil maneuvered through all the politics, had an idea what projects would make a difference in the long term and put the people in place to make it happen."

Wagoner takes pride in what his team pushed forward. "I look back on it now and wonder how we ever got this done," he laughs. "It brings me great pride as an engineer dedicated to public service to see what has occurred. This has been good for our state but we will not realize its full potential until decades from now."

When Wagoner took office his first goal was moving the 16 cent fuel tax from the state general fund into a new Transportation Trust Fund (TTF). Wagoner also knew that even a dedicated stream of revenues to transportation would not be enough to make a major difference. So, capitalizing on the TTF momentum, he and Quentin Dastugue, at the time the legislative leader of the House Transportation Committee, got to talking about economic development and how transportation could play a role in that.

"Quentin came to my office and said we need to do something for economic development across the entire state, and we both thought transportation was a way to go at it," Wagoner said.

For perspective, the late 1980s in Louisiana were difficult in terms of economic conditions. According to various environmental studies done along some of the proposed TIMED corridors like U.S. 165 and U.S. 171, the "economy was stagnant." The studies show that loss of population between 1980 and 1990 impacted almost every town along those corridors, leading to "closed businesses, vacant commercial properties and little evidence of new building." In fact, a 1992 DOTD report shows that on U.S. 165 from I-10 to Alexandria more than 20 percent of commercial properties were vacant.



Stephen Spohrer, PE,
Program Director, Louisiana TIMED Program
Chief Operating Officer, G.E.C. Inc.



Darrel W. Cole
Communications Director,
Louisiana TIMED Program
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John James Audubon Bridge, part of the TIMED Program

“Neil was the perfect guy to get this moving,” said Juba Diez, then a legislator who also supported and advocated for the program, and later became a DOTD legislative liaison for Secretary Johnny Bradberry. “Neil was an engineer, he was calm and he looked at this from a practical point of view. He was not caught up in the politics.”

Wagoner said the original idea for the list of projects came about after looking at a state map and determining the best way to get connectivity between cities of 5,000 or greater. “We thought that would be important for these communities and areas to generate economic development.”

The first attempt to get TIMED off the ground failed when it was part of Roemer’s “fiscal reform” package put to the voters in April 1989. “Because so many people were supportive of our efforts we didn’t want it to go away, so we pulled it and presented it separately,” said Wagoner.

Wagoner’s team and the supporters of the program still had some convincing to do, and plenty of negotiating. The key to it all was having enough projects in the program so that a majority of legislators could support it and, at the same time, get a majority of the public to vote for it.

With the project list in place, and the dedicated fuel tax set, it went to a vote of the legislature, and on March 7, 1989, the Louisiana legislature passed House Bill No. 17, which introduced the TIMED Program to stimulate economic growth in the state by investing in 16 specific transportation projects. With a vote of 30 to 7, the bill passed in the Senate.

In October 1989, 73% of the voters in the state of Louisiana supported the list of projects in the TIMED Program.

It was signed into law as Act 16 of the 1989 First Extraordinary Session of the Legislature, effective January 1, 1990.

After the initial ramping up, the projects were built on a “pay-as-you-go” basis meaning that as the 4 cent gas tax came into the DOTD coffers, they could get out projects. The slowness of the delivery soon became an issue with the public and legislators. By the late 1990’s only four of the program’s 16 projects were completed.

A Time for Change

Kam Movassaghi, PE, was the DOTD Secretary credited with getting the program over this critical hump. Prior to being secretary, he got involved when he was named to a committee to study the value of the program in 1998. As head of the Department of Engineering at University of Louisiana at Lafayette, he looked at the program through the eyes of an academic professional.

His conclusion, which rankled some of the other committee members, was that the program wasn’t delivering economic progress as promised. It led to a call from then Governor Mike Foster asking for a meeting. It was at that meeting that Foster said to him, “OK, well you need to come in and fix it as my next secretary of transportation.”

Movassaghi accepted and immediately began to study the best way of keeping the program going as directed by voters. He looked at other states that implemented transportation programs in South Carolina and Oregon, made visits and had staff look at internal policies. He soon came to the conclusion that the program needed an outside program manager to oversee implementation, provide a blueprint for how to accelerate the program, and be held accountable for the progress.



Worker on beams at John James Audubon Bridge

Said Movassaghi, "That took a lot of doing, but I had a great team around me committed to making this work. We simply knew this was the only way for the program to make a difference, and to improve our state the way it needed to be."

Bob Boagni said, "The concept of a program manager made sense to those of us in DOTD who saw how the current system was working. We had to do it differently, get it moving and Kam understood that."

"The Program just crept along after 1989," said Ken Naquin of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors (LAGC). "The key thing that got the TIMED program moving was when Kam came up with the idea to hire a program manager."

The path taken by Movassaghi was not without its own challenges both internally and externally. "I got many calls from a lot of people. I think it helped that I was naïve to political pressures and to influence. We did what was right and moved on."

Major General John Basilica served as Movassaghi's Undersecretary of Transportation. "It took vision and courage from Dr. Movassaghi, the governors, the legislators and the DOTD," he said. Movassaghi gives credit to the team that was around him, including Basilica, Deputy Secretary Blaise Carriere, PE, and Bill Temple, PE, Chief Engineer.

After a competitive process, DOTD selected Louisiana TIMED Managers to manage the process of accelerating the remaining construction on 12 projects and to provide support staff in program controls, financial management, public outreach, and engineering. In addition, LTM would perform extended work on 55 of the project segments, including design oversight, environmental permitting, real

estate acquisition and relocation, utility relocation, and construction engineering and inspection services.

Louisiana TIMED Managers takes the helm

After the selection of Louisiana TIMED Managers (LTM), a joint venture of G.E.C., Inc., Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc., and THE LPA GROUP INCORPORATED, the massive task of setting up the program, the staffing and the operations began.

"LTM served as an extension of DOTD," said Ron Hartje, the first LTM Program Director. "By having a dedicated staff working exclusively on the program, LTM was able to provide significant resources toward completing the TIMED Program ahead of schedule."

Even before construction began, this first ever partnership achieved much early on:

- Establishing a 20 year accelerated delivery of projects, converting from "pay-as-you-go" to a "bond-financed" program.
- Implementing a cash management strategy that allocated funds to specific projects.
- Using right-of-way methods that sped up the acquisition and relocation process, including early negotiations, more efficient appraisal processes, and implementation of e-appraisals.
- Negotiating agreements with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reduce the permitting process from 12 to 9 months and established a statewide general wetlands permit for highway construction.
- Establishing an efficient utility relocation process. With those items as the foundation, LTM put in place a construction management schedule that combined 24 project segments into 12.



Man watches progress of the bridge



Ribbon cutting of Louisiana TIMED Program John James Audubon Bridge - Governor Bobby Jindal and DOTD Secretary Sheri LeBas in front of the bow

The first major task was to solidify a contract between DOTD and LTM. Second was giving a series of presentations and holding meetings to explain to legislators and many others what the Program was going to deliver. When LTM came on board, “we were staffed and ready to get going,” Hartje said. Hartje said the leader for LTM early on was Verdi Adam, PE, President of G.E.C. Inc, who serves as the chairman of the LTM Joint Venture Board of Controls. “Mr. Adam was well respected and he guided us through all the steps we needed to take.”

Buddy Porta, PE, was DOTD’s TIMED project manager from 2001 to 2006. He was part of the DOTD team who made it work internally. He said one of the first hurdles was meshing the LTM team with the various DOTD sections.

“There was a lot of time spent on team building,” Porta said. “But once we started getting things in place and started letting projects, things really calmed down.”

Said then-DOTD Undersecretary of Transportation Major General John Basilica, “The most challenging part was that this was change. People had never seen anything like it.”

As LTM took a leadership role and worked with DOTD, the public began seeing definite improvements. The LTM team became the driving force that former Secretary Kam Movassaghi had hoped it would be. At its peak in March 2007, 243 full time LTM staff worked on the program out of 10 offices across the state, in sections such as project controls, right-of-way, and project development. This number does not include the thousands of construction-related contractor employees who worked on projects at the peak of the operations.

John “Chief ” Andrus, PE, worked for LTM on the program from “cradle to the grave” as he puts it. “It was sort of panic time when it first started,” he said. “We were trying to staff up with engineers and qualified inspectors while projects were being let for construction.”

Andrus said he was one of the workers who questioned whether projects could be delivered as quickly as expected. “I for one believed that the completion dates were an impossible task. But as work moved forward and we saw multi-million-dollar projects being completed in three to four years, we all became believers.”

“The program was slow going until LTM was brought on,” said Ken Naquin of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors (LAGC). “LTM gave the program focus, cohesive oversight and direction.”

Summary

Over the years, the projects and project segments have been developed at a rapid pace, creating jobs, improving safety and opening the door to economic development. While the

TIMED Program continues to improve transportation system infrastructure, many more positive impacts have resulted than the general public may be unaware of:

- **Jobs:** On a daily basis over the past several years, thousands of Louisiana residents have worked on TIMED projects.

- State legislation requires that more than 80% of the workers on TIMED Projects reside in Louisiana. It should be noted that LTM achieved a 92% residency rate for workers as of October 2012.

- TIMED contractors also conduct business with local companies. A good example is the John James Audubon Bridge where almost two-thirds of the work for the \$409 million project was given to vendors from the surrounding parishes. This includes everything from purchasing sandwiches at the local deli to tools and equipment from local businesses.

- The boost to local economies during construction of these major transportation projects can also be significant as anything bought and paid for results in increased tax revenues for local governments.

- **Economic development opportunities:**

- Transportation investment can lead to economic development, typically by providing the opportunity for more jobs and income to an area’s residents. Case in point: Along the 165, 167 and 171 corridors, some new businesses have located while established businesses are encouraged by the opportunities. The Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce said the highway widening in central Louisiana provided a “critical advantage” to business through connecting communities and for providing efficient north-south routes and easier access to other corridors.

- Investment in infrastructure also contributes to business growth through four key factors: increased business reach/

accessibility; lower personal travel costs; improved job access, and ultimately enhanced quality of life for residents.

Project	Total Projected Program Costs	Length (Miles)	Construction Miles in Progress	% Complete ¹	Start Date	Completion Date
U.S. 61	\$98 M	19.6	0	100%	2001	2011
U.S. 90	\$256 M	24.9	0	100%	1991	1999
U.S. 165 ²	\$936 M	172.9	1.4	97%	1991	2010
U.S. 167 ³	\$699 M	112.2	2.1	98%	1995	2011
U.S. 171	\$620 M	121.3	0	100%	1990	2010
LA 15	\$89 M	28.4	0	100%	1992	2007
LA 3241 ⁴	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
Earhart Boulevard	\$20 M	2.8	0.9	97%	1996	2011
Tchoupitoulas St.	\$51 M	4.0	0	100%	1994	2004
WB Expressway	\$33 M	1.0	0	100%	1990	1993
West Napoleon	\$69 M	5.0	0	100%	1992	2006
Florida Ave. Bridge ⁴	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
Huey P. Long Bridge	\$1.2 B	3.2	1.6	88%	2005	2013
Audubon Bridge	\$409 M	14.6	0	99%	2006	2011
Louis Armstrong Intl. Airport	\$75 M	0	0	100%	1990	1995
Port of New Orleans	\$100 M	0	0	100%	1990	1995

¹ Progress (% complete) based on expenditures through June 30, 2011.
² Completion date excludes Red River Bridge - Fort Buhlow.
³ Completion date excludes State Route in Dry Prong.
⁴ Limited funding is available for these projects. Scopes and schedules are being reassessed. Costs not included in the \$4.6 billion total projected program cost.

– Infrastructure is one of the top concerns expressed by businesses when considering locating to a region. A good transportation system means delivery of goods is more efficient and less expensive, and ensures employees have adequate access to their job.

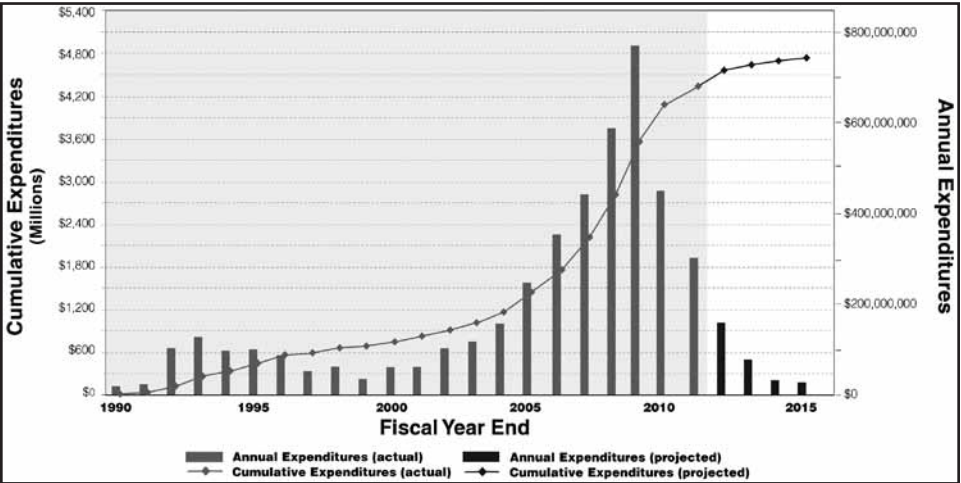
• **Improved freight transportation:** The highway system is of critical importance to the transport of both raw materials and finished products. The condition of the system affects vehicle maintenance costs, freight damage, and transportation efficiency. Furthermore, recurring highway congestion is a major impediment to truck freight affecting departure and arrival times, trip duration, and cargo transport costs. TIMED projects are and will improve freight transportation and commerce.

• **Safety:** Various national studies indicate that conversion from “most typical” two-lane sections to “most typical” four lane divided sections appears to result in a crash reduction of between 40 percent to 60 percent.

• **Evacuation Routes:** Improvements in bridges and roadways make emergency evacuations safer and quicker.

Basilica sums it up best: “In the TIMED Program, the ‘E’ stood for economic development. It was visionary that you would have to spend money upfront to get a bigger bang for our buck in the long run. These projects have all paid great dividends to further the economic vitality of the state of Louisiana.”

Stephen Spohrer, PE is the Chief Operating Officer of GEC, Inc., the Baton Rouge based ENR Top 500 Civil Engineering firm. He is also the company's full-time representative to the Joint Venture Louisiana TIMED Managers. As Program Director for LTM, Mr. Spohrer is responsible for all LTM preconstruction and construction activities for the \$5.5 billion program. Included in these projects are simultaneous crossings of the Mississippi River, the Huey P. Long Bridge in Jefferson Parish, and the John James Audubon Bridge in Pointe Coupee and West Feliciana Parishes. Mr. Spohrer received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1970 and is a licensed Professional Engineer in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Florida, and Texas. Mr. Spohrer has more than 40 years experience with a broad range of multi-level management experience in engineering, contracting, construction, CPM scheduling, program, and project management.



Progress	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Miles Completed	74	103	119	126	153	222	289	384	424	493
Miles Under Construction	68	87	114	153	210	232	219	124	84	15
Miles Pre-construction	394	346	303	257	173	82	28	28	28	28
Dollars Dedicated	\$1.1 B	\$1.2 B	\$1.5 B	\$1.9 B	\$2.6 B	\$3.1B	\$4.3 B	\$4.5 B	\$4.5 B	\$4.6 B

Top graph, projects; middle graph, funding; bottom graph progress

2012 ASCE Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon

The 2012 Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon was held on September 7, 2012, at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, Louisiana and was hosted by the Shreveport Branch. Shreveport Branch President Patrick Furlong called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the luncheon. Section President Ronald Schumann, Jr., gave the invocation, after which he made his opening remarks. President Schumann cited the many accomplishments during the past year and thanked the Section Board for their hard work and support. He made special mention of the Infrastructure Report Card team's monumental work in completing the Section's first Report Card.

Following an excellent luncheon President Schumann called upon Ali Mustapha to present the Life Member Award to several Shreveport Branch recipients who were not able to attend the Section's Spring Conference in Baton Rouge.

Afterwards, Section Awards Committee Chairman Chris Humphreys 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. Chairman Humphreys 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 Humphreys also thanked the awards committee, which included Bob Jacobsen, Pam Gonzales, Ali Mustapha, and Christopher Sanchez, for their efforts in reviewing the numerous nominations and assisting in selecting this year's recipients.

This year's Section Award recipients were:

Paul A. Richards, PhD, PE – Lifetime Achievement
Christopher P. Knotts, PE – Outstanding Civil Engineer
Samuel D. Amoroso, PhD, PE – Outstanding Young Civil Engineer
Gianna Cothren, PhD, PE – Educator of the Year
Miles B. Bingham, PE – Outreach

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 2012 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:

Elwin Louis McGee, PE – Shreveport Branch
Gerald R. Dyson, PE – Baton Rouge Branch
Eugene Raymond DesOrmeaux, PE – Acadiana Branch
Griff C. Lee, PE – New Orleans Branch

After Chairman Humphreys presented the Section Awards, Section President Schumann announced the final award of the ceremony, the President's Medal, to Karen Holden Cox, PE.

Norm Jean Mattei was then called upon to install the incoming Section Officers and Board of Directors for the Louisiana Section for the 2012-2013 administrative year.

The 2012-2013 Section Officers are:

President – Kurt M. Nixon, PE, PLS
President-Elect – Robert W. Jacobsen, PE
Vice-President – Pamela A. Gonzales, PE
Secretary-Treasurer – Christopher G. Humphreys, PE
Past President – Ronald L. Schumann, Jr., PE, PE

The Board of Directors are:

Dave Rambaran, PE – Shreveport Branch President
Eric McClanahan, PE – Acadiana Branch President
Rudy Simoneaux, PE – Baton Rouge Branch President
James Martin, PhD, PE – New Orleans Branch President
R. J. (Joey) Coco Jr., PE
Jeffery L. Duplantis, PE
Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE
Luke M. Hebert, PE
Matt D. Redmon, PE
Christopher L. Sanchez, PE

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

2012-2013 ASCE Louisiana Section Officers



Kurt M. Nixon, PE, PLS
President



Robert W. Jacobsen, PE
President-Elect



Pamela A. Gonzales, PE
Vice-President



Christopher G. Humphreys, PE
Secretary-Treasurer



Ronald L. Schumann, Jr., PE
Past President



2012-13 ASCE Louisiana Section Leadership

Left to right: Kurt Nixon, PE, PLS; Robert Jacobsen, PE; Pamela Gonzales, PE; Christopher G. Humphreys, PE; Ronald L. Schumann, Jr., PE; Luke Hebert, PE; Matthew D. Redmon, PE; Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE; Eric McClanahan, PE; Ruldoph Simoneaux, PE; Dave Rambaran, PE. Not pictured: James Martin, PE; Christopher L. Sanchez, PE; Luke E. LeBas, PE; and, R.J. (Joey) Coco Jr., PE



Journal Chairman Robert Jacobsen, Editor Nedra Davis, and Section President Ronald Schumann



Kurt Nixon accepts the Presidential gavel from Ronald Schumann

2012-2013 ASCE Louisiana Section Board of Directors



Matt D. Redmon, PE
Director-at-Large



R.J. (Joey) Coco Jr., PE
Director-at-Large



Luke M. Hebert, PE
Director-at-Large



Christopher L. Sanchez, PE
Director-at-Large



Rudy Simoneaux, PE
Branch Director



James Martin, PhD, PE
Branch Director



Dave Rambaran, PE
Branch Director



Eric McClanahan, PE
Branch Director



Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE
Assigned Branch Director



Jeffery L. Duplantis, PE
Assigned Branch Director

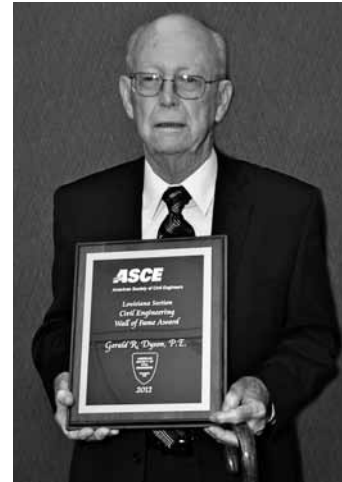
2012 Louisiana Section Awards



Eugene Raymond DesOrmeaux, PE
Wall of Fame



Elwin Louis McGee, PE
Wall of Fame



Gerald R. Dyson, PE
Wall of Fame



Paul A. Richards, PhD, PE
Lifetime Achievement



Christopher P. Knotts, PE
Outstanding Civil Engineer



Gianna Cothren, PhD, PE
Educator of the Year



Karen Cox Holden, PE
President's Medal

NOT PICTURED:

Samuel D. Amoroso, PhD, PE
Outstanding Young Civil Engineer

Miles B. Bingham, PE
Outreach

New ASCE-COPRI Louisiana Chapter is established

By Jon D. Risinger, PhD, M.ASCE, Chairman



COAST, OCEANS,
PORTS AND RIVERS
INSTITUTE

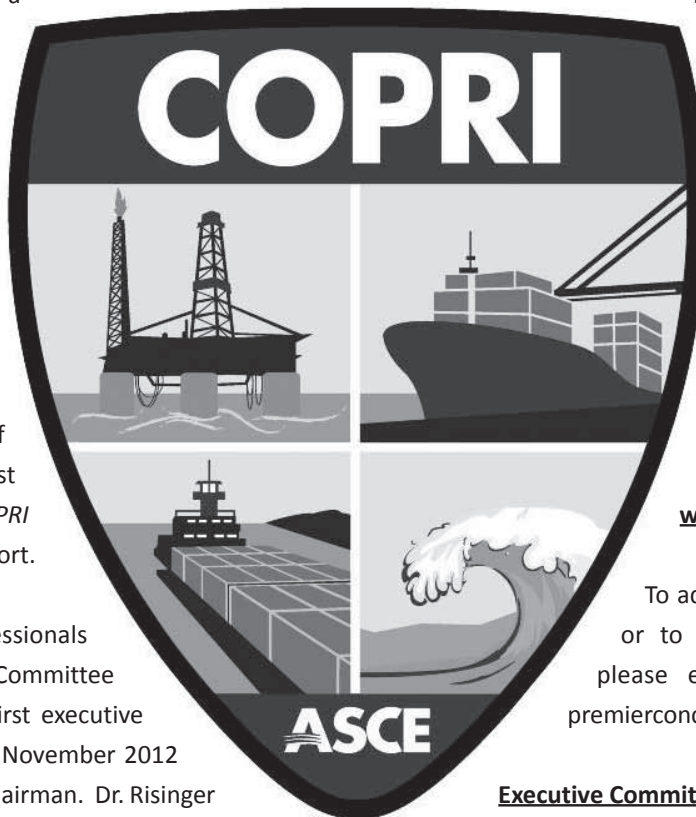
Louisiana Chapter

There has been a need to establish a Louisiana Technical Group for Coastal Engineering Professionals. After meeting with Mr. Tom Chase (ASCE COPRI National Director), the ASCE Louisiana Section, and the Baton Rouge Branch, it was decided that this local chapter of ASCE Coast, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute (COPRI) will be formed under the Louisiana Section and serve the entire State of Louisiana and surrounding Gulf Coast Regions. It will be called *ASCE-COPRI Louisiana Chapter* or L.COPRI for short.

Several coastal engineering professionals were invited to join the Executive Committee (ExComm) of this group and the first executive committee meeting will be held in November 2012 with Dr. Jon D. Risinger serving as Chairman. Dr. Risinger is a Lead Coastal Engineer with MWH Global in Baton Rouge, LA. The ExComm has about half the membership from Baton Rouge area and the other half from New Orleans area including representatives from the ASCE Acadiana and Shreveport Branches. The ExComm will meet monthly to plan the activities for coastal engineering professionals in the Gulf Coast Region. The disciplines on the ExComm will be from coastal, ocean, ports, and rivers and include representatives from private sector, local, state, and federal government agencies, and non-profit groups. The proposed ExComm & Corresponding members will be introduced in the next quarterly newsletter and are highlighted below.

ASCE's National COPRI Section and the ASCE Louisiana Section have approved our chapter formation by signing an MOU and adopting by-laws for governance. This group is the third ASCE COPRI Chapter behind Los Angeles and Boston. The formation of L.COPRI also includes a Young Professionals Group and Student Chapters led by Marc Leblanc and Kyle Parker, respectively.

The activities of this group will arrange seminars, workshops and other activities for benefit of the 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 coastal engineering professionals. The Chapter is currently planning its first quarterly seminar that will be announced in the upcoming months.

Anyone interested in joining L.COPRI should contact Dr. *Jon D. Risinger, Chairman*, or visit the national ASCE COPRI website at www.asce.org/copri/.

To add your name to our mailing list and/or to become a corresponding member, please e-mail Ashly Adams at aadams@premierconcrete.com.

Executive Committee & Corresponding Members

Ashly Adams, Barbara Benson, Nedra Davis, Catherine Dunn, Brett Geesey, Stephanie Hanses, Tonja Koob, Dennis Lambert, Ehab Meselhe, David Minton, Tyler Ortego, Michael Pugh, Lucila Silva, Nina Reins, Jenni Schindler, Rudy Simoneaux, Paul Tschirkey, Clint Willson; with Marc LeBlanc and Kyle Parker representing the Young Professionals Group and LSU Student Chapter, respectively.

ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter News

By Daniel J. Aucutt, PE, Newsletter Editor



TRANSPORTATION
& DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE
LOUISIANA CHAPTER

October 2012 marked the third full year of operation for the ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter. The Chapter would like to acknowledge the continued contribution of our 2011-2012 officers. Our Founder and first Chairman was Om Dixit. Om was succeeded by Karen Holden, and both continue to provide essential support for our committee activities. For the 2012-2013 fiscal year, Dan Aucutt, who has been serving as Vice Chair and Newsletter Editor has assumed the Chair position; David Kanger will serve as Vice Chair; Miles Bingham will continue to serve as Treasurer; and Michael Paul will serve as Newsletter Editor.

Two new subcommittee positions have been added as our Chapter continues to grow. Our seminar activities are typically held in New Orleans and Baton Rouge, with outreach seminars in other Louisiana cities. In order to provide a consistent and professional seminar product, Miles Bingham and Robert Dugas, Jr. have formed a Seminar Coordination Subcommittee. Once a seminar topic is selected and scheduled, Miles and Robert will work behind the scenes with the seminar sponsor to make sure the myriad details are expertly addressed.

The second new subcommittee is a little more glamorous and certainly more visible. We have set aside a portion of our seminar proceeds to fund a Scholarship Subcommittee, which will be managed and promoted by Dr. Louay Mohammad. The Chapter plans to award two \$500 scholarships this year. The first announcement has already been issued to various university department heads across the state. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and awardees will be announced in the next Newsletter issue.

The intent of the institute is to promote transportation and development as a career path, and to provide training and networking opportunities for all professionals involved in transportation projects. Training seminars are two hours in length and are typically presented from 5:30–7:30 pm in the New Orleans or Baton Rouge area. We have also presented one out-reach seminar with the ASCE Acadiana Branch and two seminars with the Shreveport Branch. We are open to hosting seminars in additional cities if requested.

Accomplishments in the past year include planning and presenting five seminars covering the following topics:

- Program Management
 - ✓ Initially presented in Baton Rouge
 - ✓ Presented as an outreach seminar at the ASCE Shreveport Branch
- I-10 Twin Span Elevation Determination
 - ✓ Initially presented in Baton Rouge
 - ✓ Presented as an outreach seminar at the ASCE Acadiana Branch
- FAA State of the Art Airport Modeling
- Hurricane Evacuation Planning and Modeling
- MS River Navigation plus Marsh Restoration

Future seminars are planned for the following topics:

- Pavement Engineering
(3-Part Series: Asphalt Design, PCC Design, Soil/Subgrade)
- New Orleans Streetcar System (Past & Present)
- Complete Streets: Policy and Projects
- Environmental Update: Air and Noise Regulations.

If you have a seminar topic or are interested in co-sponsoring a seminar at your branch, the T&DI LA Chapter has prepared a Seminar Coordinator's Check List to assist you in your preparation. Contact Dan Aucutt at djaucutt@gmail.com for a copy of the checklist.

The Chapter also contributed to the ASCE Fall Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show (LCEC&S) in Kenner, Louisiana. This year there were three well-attended presentations which were arranged by the T&DI Louisiana Chapter Members.

Om Dixit and Ronnie Schumann served on the Host committee, while Miles Bingham was active on the Planning committee. Brin Ferlito and Karen Holden served as Session Moderators, and Miles Bingham delivered a presentation on Program Management. Your T&DI Louisiana Chapter will continue to assist in the LCEC&S Spring and Fall Conferences.



Southern University and A&M College will have the privilege of hosting the Deep South ASCE Student Conference next spring, March 21-23, 2013. As the much anticipated event draws near, we are in the process of raising funds to make the conference a success. We invite you to share our commitment to represent the "Red Stick" region and our industry with pride.

The Deep South conference, an event sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers and other local engineering firms. This annual conference brings together all of the ASCE Student Chapters from civil engineering programs throughout the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. The conference gives ASCE members a chance to gain valuable hands-on experience by competing in such events as a concrete canoe competition and steel bridge design and construction. The 2013 Deep South conference will also include technical paper presentations, surveying competition, a banquet and a career fair/networking event. These events as well as numerous other public outreach efforts will be open to the public for observation and presented in multiple media outlets.

Please consider a financial contribution to the ASCE conference. Your gift will subsidize the cost of equipment rentals, plaques and awards, facility rental, and registration packets. We will display your firm's name and/or logo at the conference events, in the program, on the conference t-shirt, and at the banquet. In addition, your contribution is in support of the Southern University and A&M College ASCE Student Chapter, a non-profit group, dedicated to the professional development of civil engineering students.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jamal Steib at jsteib3@gmail.com

2013 DEEP SOUTH CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

Date: March 21-23
Place: Southern University and A&M College

Yes! I want to be a sponsor for The 2013 Deep South Conference.
Please fill out the information below and select the appropriate level of sponsorship.

Contact Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

☐ Minimum of \$500 - PLATINUM
Career Fair Table
Deep South Conference Website Recognition
ASCE News Letter Recognition
Logo Printed on Conference T-Shirt
5 Meal Tickets

☐ Minimum of \$350 - GOLD
Deep South Conference Website Recognition
ASCE News Letter Recognition
Logo Printed on Conference T-Shirt
3 Meal Tickets

☐ Minimum of \$200 - SILVER
Deep South Conference Website Recognition
ASCE News Letter Recognition
Logo Printed on Conference T-Shirt

☐ BRONZE OPEN DONATION
Deep South Conference Website Recognition

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Civil Engineering Department, PBS Pinchback Hall
Baton Rouge, LA
Phone: (225) 771-3572
Fax: (225) 771-5721
Email: southernuasce@gmail.com

Branch News

ACADIANA BRANCH

By Eric McClanahan, PE, Branch President

The ASCE Acadiana Branch started off the fall of 2012 calendar year with a luncheon being held on October 25th at Abacus in Lafayette, Louisiana in which Patrick Landry, PE, installed the new board of directors for the Acadiana branch. Branch awards from the Acadiana Branch were also presented during the luncheon. We would like to thank all those that attended, extend our thanks and congratulate the award recipients, and introduce the directors for the Acadiana Branch.

Branch awards presented during the luncheon. Award Recipients are:

Outstanding Civil Engineer – Tom R. Carroll, PE, PLS

Wall of Fame – Raymond DesOrmeaux, PE

Civil Engineering Educator – Chris Carroll, PhD

Outstanding Young Civil Engineer – Colby Guidry, PE

Lifetime Achievement – Paul A. Richards, PhD, PE

Life Member – James F David Aff. M. ASCE

Life Member – Wayne Michael LaBiche PE, M. ASCE

The Board of Directors for the 2012 – 2013 term will be:

President – Eric T. McClanahan, PE

President Elect – Tyler Roy, EI

Treasurer – Beau Tate, PE

Secretary – Ronke Osibajo

BATON ROUGE BRANCH

By Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III, PE, Branch President

I want to begin by admitting that words cannot quantify the level of excitement, honor, and pride I felt during my installation as the Baton Branch President last month. But the following text, my first official President's Message, will serve as a humble attempt to do just that.

I'll start with a little background information on myself ... my wife Claire and I have been happily married since 2007, and this past April we welcomed our first child, Anna Claire, into our lives. My family and I are currently parishioners of St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church. I'm originally from the small Assumption Parish town of Plattenville, LA where I lived my entire life before moving to Baton Rouge in 1998 to attend LSU. I have been a loyal member of ASCE since I became a Student Member in 1998. I have served as a

The Branch conducted our first meeting with the new board on October 25, 2012 after the Luncheon and discussed what we can do best to serve our membership in the upcoming year and what we can do best to serve the ULL and McNeese University student chapters of ASCE. The Acadiana branch board unanimously concluded that we would double the scholarship awards given to the students of ULL and McNeese University effective for the spring and fall semesters of 2013. In addition we are looking to send two members of the Acadiana Branch ASCE board to the ERYMC (Eastern Regional Younger Member Council) meeting to be held in February of 2013 in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Acadiana branch of ASCE is currently working on updating our website and putting together a seminar for our members that will consist of receiving 2-4 professional development hours. We are planning to have this event held in the spring.

If you should have any questions please call or email Eric McClanahan at 337-268-9755 or emcclanahan@eustiseng.com or any board member through our website at www.asceacadiana.net.

Branch Board Member since 2005 when I was first installed as a Director. I am currently employed by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority as an Engineer Supervisor where I have worked since 2004 (my entire professional career).

As a Board member for the past seven years, I have personally witnessed significant growth within this Branch. We are currently over 700 members strong and growing! Thinking back to the goals of the previous Branch Presidents during this timeframe, they have all strived to increase the Branch's involvement with Younger Members and Student Chapters. Today we have over 300 members under the age of 35 of which over 100 are Student Members. More importantly, our Branch Luncheons have seen significant increases in Younger Member participation, as well as Student Member

continued on next page



Rudy Simoneaux receives the Presidential Gavel from President Clint Willson



2011-12 President Clint Willson receives the Gavel plaque from Adam Smith, Past President



New Board, Left to right: Danielle Welborn, Sam Amoroso, Rudy Simoneaux, Kirk Lowery, Joey Coco, and Clint Willson

BATON ROUGE BRANCH, continued

participation from both LSU and SU. As Branch President, it will be a priority of mine to maintain these levels of Younger Member and Student participation within our Branch as these individuals represent the future of our Society and profession.

Our Baton Rouge Branch Board for 2012-13:

President – Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III, PE
President-Elect – R.J. (Joey) Coco, Jr., MBA, PE
Vice President – Kirk Lowery, PE
Secretary-Treasurer – Danielle Welborn, EI
Past President – Clinton S. Willson, PhD, PE
Director – Programs – Samuel D. Amoroso, PhD, PE
Director of Education – Jennifer Shortess, EI
Younger Member Committee Chair – Justin Schexnayder, EI
LSU Practitioner Advisor – Sarah Laasko, EI
SUBR Practitioner Advisor – Kahli Cohran, EI
Membership Chair – Steve Gunter, PE

After attending the Annual ASCE Conference in October, it became even clearer to me that Infrastructure and Sustainability are becoming the main themes of ASCE's Mission Statement. As we move further into the 21st century, the nation will be facing the consequences of a crumbling infrastructure system. This was highlighted on the State level earlier this year when the 2012 Report for Louisiana's Infrastructure was released. It will be this Board's responsibility to promote this document and make the people in and around the Baton Rouge area aware of the potential crisis we are facing. As Civil Engineers, it is our duty to inform people of this issue.

NEW ORLEANS BRANCH

By James Martin, PhD, PE, Branch President

The New Orleans Branch has been quite busy over the past several months. We have elected new officers, honored branch award recipients, hosted the Fall Louisiana Civil Engineering Show and Conference, welcomed a new ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, and received positive news regarding an additional landmark dedication. We will soon be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the ASCE New Orleans Branch.

In July, the Branch elected a new panel of officers to serve for the 2012-2013 term. The newly elected officers are as follows:

President – James Martin, PhD, PE
President-elect – Steve Johns, PE
Vice President – Lee Alexander, PE
Treasurer – Wesley Eustis, PE
Secretary – Tonja Koob, PhD, PE
Director At-large – James Hance, PE
Director At-large – Ajay Potturi, PE
Director & Past President – Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE

The previous officers and specifically the president have done an exemplary job of advancing the Branch while maintaining an outstanding array of technical, historic, and philanthropic endeavors and activities. The new board is hopeful that we can maintain the previous board's high standards.

In a previous update, we noted the names of our award recipients for the previous year. However, at the time, the

Additionally, as voters it our right to make sure our elected officials are made aware of this issue.

My term as Branch President has begun with several exciting events. Over the past month the Baton Rouge Branch co-hosted a Mayoral Candidate Forum and a Metro-Council Candidate Forum. These events were co-sponsored by ACEC, AGC, AIA, APWA, and LES. Our members were given the opportunity to meet the candidates personally, and listen to each address issues that are important to the engineering and architecture communities. The main issues ASCE brought forth included concerns with degrading infrastructure around the Baton Rouge area, and potential changes to the East Baton Parish Quality Based Selection process.

Our October Luncheon was held on October 20th at the Nucor Direct Reduced Iron Plant in St. James Parish. The group met at Hymel's Restaurant on River Road in Convent, LA before visiting the neighboring plant, which is currently under construction. Prior to leading us on our tour of the large scale structural work under construction, Les Hart, the General Manager of Nucor – Louisiana, gave a brief presentation about the company and the design and construction of the plant. Notable sights were the dock facility, the reinforced concrete material storage domes, the process tower, and the largest crane in the world – Mammoet's Platform Twin-Ring Containerized (PTC) model.



Mr. Charlie Eustis, PE installs the new Baton Rouge Branch Board Members

recipient of the Branch's president medal had yet to be named. We are proud to now present the complete list of award recipients:

Griff Lee, PE –
Wall of Fame nominee
Thomas W. Wells, PE –
Lifetime Achievement award
Christopher G. Humphreys, PE –
Outstanding Civil Engineer
Miles B. Bingham, PE –
Outreach award
Wesley R. Eustis, PE –
Outstanding Young Civil Engineer
Meg Adams, PE –
President's Award



James Martin, PhD, PE accepts the gavel from Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE



New 2012-13 Board officers, (Left to right): James Martin, PhD, PE; Steve Johns, PE; Lee Alexander, PE; Wesley Eustis, PE; Ajay Potturi, PE; Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE (Not pictured are Tonja Koob, PhD, PE and James Hance, PE)

continued on next page

NEW ORLEANS BRANCH, continued

While Meg is no longer officially a board member, she has remained extremely active in all Branch activities. The current officers and members have her to thank for many of our monthly lunch arrangements and more importantly for many of our outreach activities.

Additional congratulations should also go out to Branch members, Mr. Miles Bingham and Dr. Gianna Cothren, who were honored at the Section level with awards for Outreach and Educator of the Year respectively.

On September 20th and 21st, the 2012 Louisiana Civil Engineering Show and Conference took place at the Pontchartrain Center. Despite Hurricane Isaac passing through town only a few weeks prior, the conference was a resounding success. There were more exhibitors than ever before and we have received excellent feedback concerning the caliber of guest speakers. The Board of the Fall Conference (comprised of members of the local ASCE and ACI branches) should be congratulated on another job well done.

On September 28, 2012, the New Orleans Branch hosted the dedication ceremony of the Huey P. Long Bridge as an ASCE Historic Civil Engineering



Dedication ceremony of the Huey P. Long Bridge as an ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark

Civil Engineering Landmark. ASCE National President Andrew Hermann, PE presented the commemorative plaque to John Morrow, the general manager of the Public Belt Railroad in a ceremony attended by Secretary Sherri LeBas of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Jefferson

Parish President John Young, and other local dignitaries. Radio personality "Spud" McConnell conducted the ceremony as Huey P. Long. The Huey P. Long Bridge joins the Eiffel Tower, the Panama Canal and other marvels in an exclusive group of less than 300 Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks in the world.

During the festivities, we also learned that the Greater New Orleans Area may soon receive news regarding another historic engineering landmark. Nothing is final yet, but we are keeping our fingers crossed to bring you more good news in coming months.

2012 marks the 50th anniversary of the New Orleans Branch. The yearlong celebration for our golden jubilee is ongoing and an effort is underway to review past achievements and recognize individuals responsible for them. We have set up a special email address, asceno50@gmail.com, to collect input from all ASCE members; so please, send us your civil engineering memories of the past 50 years. Pictures and videos are welcome and encouraged.

As we finalize our plans to celebrate this achievement, we will post more information on our website (www.asceneworleans.org) and communicate to our members via email.

Currently, we are planning a dinner party for the month of December that will commemorate our golden jubilee.

The New Orleans Branch is looking forward to an eventful and exciting 2012-2013 term. Please visit our website at www.asceneworleans.org for upcoming events and news and do not hesitate to contact me at jmartin@gecinc.com if you have any questions or need additional information.



Radio personality "Spud" McConnell conducted the ceremony as Huey P. Long (left) and ASCE National President Andrew Hermann, PE

SHREVEPORT BRANCH

By Dave Rambaran, PE, Branch President

Our Installation and Awards Banquet was held in Shreveport this year with a record turnout. We are very excited about our dedication to providing more and giving back to our members. Our new Shreveport Branch Board members are as follows:

President – Dave Rambaran, PE
President-Elect – Mitch Guy, PE
Treasurer — David Smith, PE
Secretary — Haibo Cao, PE
Past President – Patrick Furlong, PE
LA Tech Practitioner Advisor – J. Daniel Thompson, PE

Because of this we are planning on an exciting year with new activities and member participation. Our Joint meeting will be scheduled for the October 10th and the LAPELS Board has prepared an Ethics presentation. Also, for October we are hosting jointly the first Tail Gate Party for Texas A&M football game against Louisiana Tech at Independence Stadium in Shreveport.

Our November meeting will be at the Louisiana Tech Transfer Center in Shreveport and our presentation will speak about

Engineering Career Development. Mr. Anthony Fasano has provided coaching services for engineers in the New York City Area.

In December we are planning a four-hour presentation for our members on concrete construction.

We would like to thank the section officers for having the awards banquet at the Shreveport Branch. The Branch would like to congratulate award recipients from the Shreveport Branch for the various Section Membership Awards:

Louis McGee, PE, PLS – *Wall of Fame*
Roy Jones, PE – *Life Member*
Bob Basinger, PE – *Life Member*
William Taylor, PE – *Life Member*



William Taylor (right) receives Life Member Award from Branch President Patrick Furlong

ASCE-SEI New Orleans Chapter News

By Om Dixit, PE, FASCE, Newsletter Editor



Since our report in September 2012 issue of this magazine, ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter was busy hosting 2 seminars and has planned the following future seminars in New Orleans.

First seminar was held on August 23, 2012. SEI New Orleans Chapter invited *Sam Amoroso, PhD, PE* and *Joffrey Easley, PE* of Engensus Engineering and Consulting from Baton Rouge to present a seminar “*Reorganization and Modifications to the Wind Load Provisions of ASCE/SEI 7-10*”. Dr. Amoroso and Mr. Easley presented an overview of the changes and provided several examples to provide practicing engineers and code officials’ guidance on the application of the new wind load provisions of ASCE 7-10. They also stated the profound impact on the practicing engineer and those responsible for implementing the wind load provisions of the standard, as ASCE 7-10 is referenced by the 2012 edition of the International Building Code (IBC). The seminar was attended by about 85 members.

Another seminar is being planned at the time of this report for late October 2012. SEI New Orleans Chapter invited *Barry Reed, PE*, (Vice President Keystone Engineering, Metairie) and *Benjamin Foley, PE*, (General Manager Offshore Renewables Group Keystone Engineering, Metairie) to present seminar “*AN INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFSHORE WIND INDUSTRY AND DISCUSSION OF THE AMERICAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION’S 2012 RECOMMENDED PRACTICES (AWEA RP2012)*”. The presenters will address wind industry basics, American advances in offshore wind and the AWEA RP 2012 code.

SEI New Orleans Chapter also arranged several structural presentations at 2012 Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show held in Kenner in September. One of the main features at the conference was 2012 Herbert J. Roussel, Jr. Lecture, which was

arranged by SEI New Orleans Chapter. This year *Gene Corley, PhD, PE*, (Vice President CTL, Chicago) was going to present “*Structure Licensure: Is it Good for the Public and You?*” At last minute due to a family emergency he could not come and SEI New Orleans Chapter contacted *Marc S. Barter, PE, SE*, (Barter & Associates, Mobile, AL) who accepted the invitation to present the same lecture. Other prominent invitee at the conference was *Robert T. Leon, PhD, PE*, *David H. Burrows* Professor of Construction Engineering, Virginia Tech., Blacksburg, Virginia; who presented “*Performance of Structures in the 2010-2012 Christchurch Earthquakes*”.

ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter new officers for 2012-13:

Chairman – Anthony Goodgion, PE

Vice Chairman – Steven Fall, PE

Treasurer – James Danner, PE

Newsletter Editor – Om Dixit, PE

The outgoing Chairman *Zolan Prucz, PhD, PE* did great job of leading the Chapter during the past year. Under his leadership the chapter was awarded *SEI Chapter of 2012* by ASCE Structural Engineering Institute. During the past year the ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter hosted five (5) two-hour seminars, and provided speakers and moderators to the annual Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show in September. Among other activities the chapter sponsored awards at the Regional Science Fair, provided volunteer support to the ASCE Sponsored Kid Tent at New Orleans Jazz Fest. The Chapter also sponsored New Orleans Regional Math Count Competition hosted by Louisiana Engineering Society every year.

The committee is looking for relevant 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 *Anthony Goodgion, PE*, at agoodgion@lhjunius.com.

All seminars are held at the University of New Orleans. Seminar dates, pertinent information, and registration can be found on the New Orleans Branch web-site at www.asceneworleans.org. To add your name to our mailing list, e-mail *Om P. Dixit, PE* at om@fenstermaker.com.



SEI New Orleans Chapter Seminar August 23, 2012 (Left to right): Presenter – *Jeffrey Easley, PE*; Seminar Coordinator – *Mark Gonski, PE*; and, Presenter – *Sam Amoroso, PhD, PE*



2012 LCEC&S on September 19, 2012 *Herbert J. Roussel, Jr. Lecture*: Presenter *Marc Barter, PE* accepting the plaque from Moderator *Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE*

Student Chapter News

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

By Lesley Cates, Student Chapter Secretary

LSU ASCE student chapter has had a busy Fall 2012 semester. Members of the chapter have participated in a Habitat for Humanity build with the Baton Rouge Branch Younger Members of ASCE along with volunteering for the Baton Rouge Food Bank.

Students have also started gearing up for the Concrete Canoe, Steel Bridge, and Surveying competitions to be held at Southern University in the Spring for the Deep South Conference. Currently, these teams have been focusing on fundraising and working on designs.

LSU has also had a variety of speakers that have presented at the bimonthly meetings. Dr. Rodolfo Aguilar, Chairman and CEO of Pyburn & Odom MCA, spoke about his many life lessons as a student, architect, engineer, and professor, challenging the students to be independent thinkers not only in school, but also in their future professions. Bill Rushing from Waldemar S. Nelson & Co., current Vice President and future President of ACI, spoke about the

wide variety of structural projects he has worked on not only onshore, but offshore, and also reminding the students to have fun while studying and be proud of their almatour. Justin Schexnayder from Providence Engineering spoke about the transition students will face when graduating college and moving into professional careers as well as the importance of taking care of the client while also having a little fun. Joey Coco, Principal of Engensus Engineering, spoke about the 2012 Report Card for Louisiana's Infrastructure and his journey through starting his own business, from the beginning stages with winning his business competition for his idea to actually starting the business and working out of his garage. All the speakers have been inspiring through sharing the challenges they have faced and LSU would like to say a special thanks to all the speakers for their knowledge and time with the students.

Those who are interested can find more information about the chapter's upcoming meetings and details about our organization at www.lsuasce.weebly.com



LSU Student Chapter, Back (left to right): Adam Catanzaro, Fundraising Chair; Matthew Stewart, Treasurer; Bill Rushing, VP of Waldemar S. Nelson and VP of ACI, meeting speaker; James Parker, President; Philip Goppelt, Webmaster; Jabari Landry, Concrete Canoe Captain; Andrew Cook, Community Service Chair; Dr. Michele Barbato, Faculty Advisor. Front (left to right): Holly Steffen, Meeting Coordinator; Brittany Alexander, Vice President; Lesley Cates, Secretary. Not pictured: Ryan Jeansonne, Steel Bridge Chair



September 6, 2012 – Students participate in a competition to build a structure strong enough to hold a book using paper



October 27, 2012 – Habitat for Humanity – Students along with the Baton Rouge Branch Younger Members participated in Habitat for Humanity

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

By Callie Coulon, Student Chapter President

Elections for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Student Chapter were held at the end of the Spring 2012 semester. The newly elected officers are as follows:

President — Callie Coulon
Vice President — Rachel Fradella
Secretary — Michelle Campbell
Treasurer — Nicholas Helminger
Events Coordinator — Clint Simoneaux
Fundraising Chair — Eric Lachaussee
Public Relations/ Conference Chair —
Jeanne Switzer

The chapter also has two Louisiana Engineering Society Student Chapter Representatives that include LES Secretary-Callie Coulon and Sports Coordinator- Nick McCoy. The officers along with faculty advisor Dr. Chris Carroll hope to build on the strong foundation established last year.

The UL Lafayette ASCE Student Chapter began the new school year with a newly renovated study area. Chapter members spent the summer remodeling the ASCE Student Lounge. The renovations included new wood flooring, freshly painted lockers, replacement of a chalk board for a white board, newly painted walls including a hand painted mural of engineering in Lafayette, and shelves to display plaques and accomplishments.

On September 11th the student organization started off the semester with the Annual ASCE Barbecue which was sponsored by Mr. E.R. DesOrmeaux, PE. The barbecue turned out very successful especially in the recruitment of new members with enrollment reaching sixty-eight members. The civil engineering students were able to meet and interact with other students as well as the faculty, staff, and local professionals. A raffle, which included special hand-crafted ULL and Saints items, was held at the event to help raise funds for the year's upcoming activities.

The chapter is currently working with Russell C. Hibbeler, PhD, PE in participation on a community service project. At the beginning of November, the students will be helping with the construction of an irrigation system designed by Dr. Hibbeler for St. Joseph's Diner, a local homeless shelter. The second meeting of the semester included a presentation given by Dr. Hibbeler discussing the engineering process of the irrigation system as well as the path he took to becoming a Professional Engineer.

In related news the department's sports team, Shear Studs, had a successful beginning of the semester. Each year, the team participates in tournaments held by

the student chapter of the Louisiana Engineering Society. These tournaments allow the different engineering departments on campus to compete against one another in friendly athletic events. The Shear Studs showed great enthusiasm and attendance at the volleyball and dodge ball tournaments placing second and third respectively. The team is currently preparing for the soccer tournament planned for late October and the flag football tournament planned for mid-November.

The chapter is preparing for a busy fall. A few upper-level students are involved in the high school LA GearUp Program which is aimed at promoting the choice of college after high school along with the field civil engineering. Sarah Richard and Callie Coulon will be attending the ACI Convention in Toronto, Canada to compete in the Egg Protection Device Competition. Also, a number of seniors will be taking the FE Exam in late October. The UL Lafayette Student Chapter of ASCE is excited to continue growing and excelling as an organization. If you wish to contact the UL Lafayette Student Chapter, the email address is ullafayetteasce@gmail.com.



ULL newly renovated study area

MCNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY

By Katie Hinson, Student Chapter Secretary

The McNeese Student chapter has also elected their representatives for the current school year. We are excited to be working with them in the upcoming year and supporting them as they advance their education at McNeese University. The board representing the Student chapter at McNeese University is as follows:

President – Jessica Trahan

Vice President – Kenneth Unkel

Treasurer – Jared Fuselier

Secretary – Katie Hinson

Historian/Canoe Captain – Michael Williams

Steel Bridge Captain – Kien Nyguen

The McNeese University Student Chapter of ASCE emphasizes, “Things are going great!” They are planning on competing in all events, and are currently designing their concrete canoe and steel bridge. They would like to encourage people to keep in touch with their ASCE Facebook page where they will be posting pictures along the way.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS

By Amy Robards, Laura Hulliger, Student Chapter Secretary

The University of New Orleans Student chapter has had a busy start to the school year.

On September 19th and 20th, officers of ASCE, ACI, and EWB received the privilege of representing the UNO student chapters at the Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show. Here, officers were able to meet with professionals and inform them of upcoming plans that these three student chapters have for the year. Many professionals were excited to talk to the students and willing to lend advice, especially related to the Steel Bridge and Concrete Canoe Competitions.

During the ASCE monthly meeting on September 27th, guest speakers Deborah D. Keller, PE, Director of Development, Port of N.O., and ASCE National President Andrew W. Herrmann, PE, SECB, F.SEI, F.ASCE came to visit UNO. Deborah Keller

spoke about the generation differences between co-workers. She stressed just how important it is to understand when working with others where they have come from. Generations of today differ greatly from generations past, and today there is more of a gap between co-workers than ever before.

Andrew Herrmann, in town for the Huey P. Long Bridge dedication, spoke to students about the state of our infrastructure in the United States. He talked about five steps to improving our infrastructure, including; increasing federal leadership, promoting sustainability and resilience, developing national, regional, and state infrastructure plans, addressing life-cycle costs, and increasing and improving investment from all stakeholders. He encouraged students to become knowledgeable about how they can help to improve our

infrastructure with the help of ASCE National and both state and federal legislation.

Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge Teams have begun preparing for the 2013 Deep South Conference. They are laying out their budgets and working on a final design. If you would like to know more, or are interested in donating materials or ideas for the Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge Projects, feel free to contact us at asceuno@gmail.com.

Also, our partner organization, Engineers Without Borders, may be reached at engineerswithoutborders.uno@gmail.com.



Rebecca Jensen and Laura Hulliger attend the Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show



ASCE and EWB officers with Deborah D. Keller, PE, Director of Development, Port of New Orleans

LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

By Salvatore Pellitteri, Student Chapter Vice President

The 2013 Fall Quarter has been a successful and exciting start to the new school year. The first general interest meeting was like no other previous meeting for ASCE. By the end of the meeting, it was standing room only and ASCE had gained its largest number of new members in recent history. It was imperative to have a strong showing from the new freshmen and all the other students. The main objectives of the meeting were to alert the attendees of our chapter's upcoming events and projects, while stressing the importance of getting involved.

This quarter, we have participated in events such as Gumbo Fest, Statics help session, and Burger Burn. At Gumbo Fest, we displayed our annual projects that are Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge. This allowed students to see the products of hard work and learn more about our organization. In addition to Gumbo Fest, ASCE played host for the annual Burger Burn on October 17. A strong showing was on hand to socialize and enjoy fresh-cooked hamburgers. On

October 30, we held an industry meeting with Crest Industries, LLC. This provided the attendees with some actual knowledge of a company that uses civil engineering skills to operate.

ASCE has also worked toward venturing out to more social activities. This quarter, we have increased our participation in intramural sports. Our indoor volleyball team's athletic ability and will to win were matched by no one. Future participation and victory in other sports are, undoubtedly, in ASCE's future.

The Concrete Canoe team aims to repeat as regional champions. The object of the competition is to build a light-weight canoe made entirely out of concrete and race in it. In addition to these aspects, the canoe is judged on aesthetics and a presentation is performed. Under the leadership of our three co-captains, concrete canoe members are looking to reach the National Competition again this year.

Steel Bridge is a competition that is based on the strength of the constructed bridge and the speed of which it takes to completely assemble. This year's team has had a large increase in membership. The team is looking to continue its previous success and reach the National Competition later this year. This year, Deep South Regional Conference will be held in March in Baton Rouge, LA.

The future is looking to be a productive and promising one for ASCE. Come attend an upcoming meeting to learn about different companies and the progression of our chapter throughout the year. The hands-on experience and knowledge gained, coupled with the enjoyment of its various activities, make ASCE the must-join engineering society at Louisiana Tech. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the President of Louisiana Tech Student Chapter, Seth Strong, at sts014@latech.edu.



— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

FEBRUARY 2013

Feb. 6-9, 2013 **ASCE Leadership Conference Regions 1, 2, 4, & 5**
Warwick, RI

MARCH 2013

March 3-6, 2013 **G-I Geo Congress 2013**
San Diego, CA • <http://content.asce.org/conferences/geo-congress2013/general.html>

March 18-23, 2013 **Washington D.C. Fly-in and OPAL Awards**
Arlington, VA

MAY 2013

May 2-4, 2013 **Structures 2013 Congress**
Pittsburgh, PA • <http://content.asce.org/conferences/structures2013/index.html>

May 19-22, 2013 **EWRI Congress 2013**
Cincinnati, OH • <http://content.asce.org/conferences/ewri2013/index.html>

JUNE 2013












June 9-12, 2013 **T&DI Highway and Airfield Pavement Conference**
Los Angeles, CA • <http://content.asce.org/conferences/pavements2013/index.html>

AUGUST 2013

August 25-28, 2013 **COPRI Ports '13**
Seattle, WA • <http://www.asce.org/PORTS13>

Please check for latest updates online: <http://www.lasce.org/calendar.aspx>

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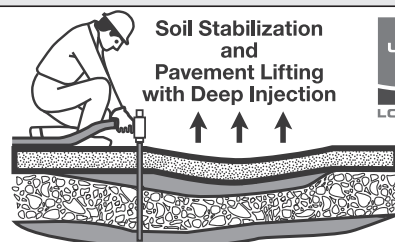


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