

# LOUISIANA CIVIL ENGINEER

Journal of the Louisiana Section

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## FEATURE:

East Baton Rouge Parish  
Stormwater Master Plan

2019-2020 Section Board  
& Board of Directors

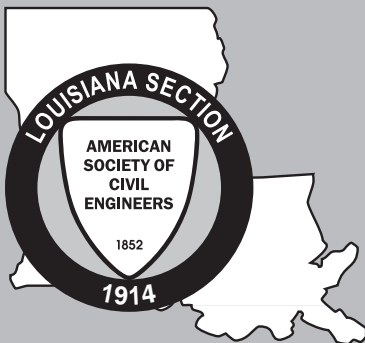
## NEWS:

Louisiana Section  
Installation & Awards  
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**Beau Tate, PE**

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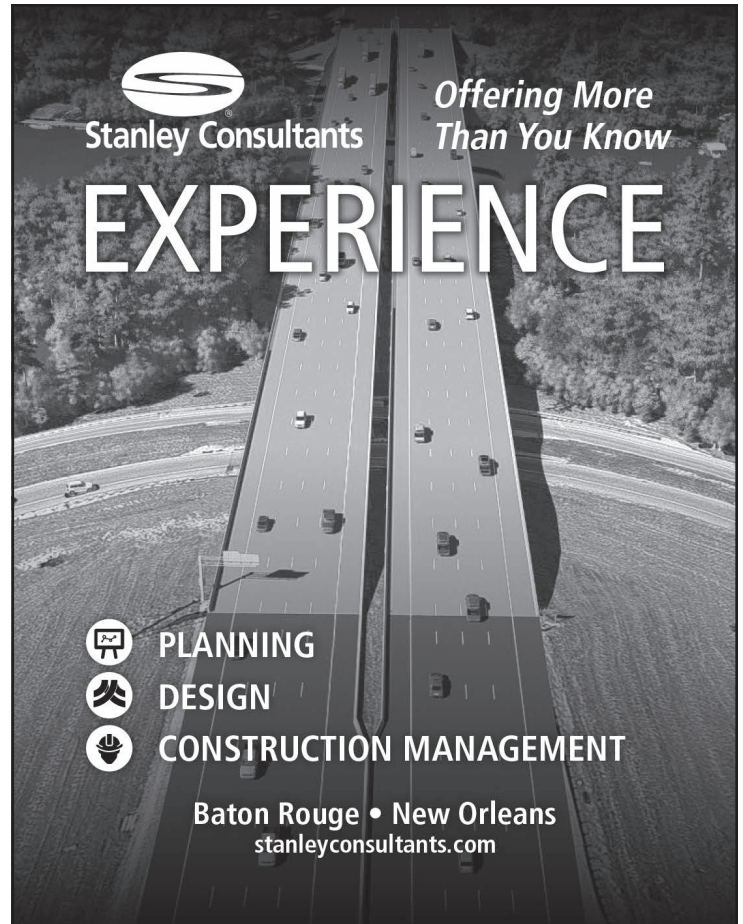
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The Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers was founded in 1914 and has since been in continuous operation. The Section consists of the entire state of Louisiana and is divided into four branches that directly serve over 2000 members.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

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# President's Message

By Beau Tate, PE

It is with great pleasure and humility that I accept the honor of being elected as the President of the ASCE Louisiana Section for 2019-2020. I would like to thank the Section, branches, Section affiliates, and student chapters for their continued support to the Louisiana ASCE and the great condition the Section is in as I take office. I also want to congratulate Rudy Simoneaux III, PE for his service and success as Section President for the 2018-2019 year. Finally, I would like to thank Chris Humphreys, PE for his service to ASCE and for being instrumental in providing me the opportunity to serve on the Section Board.

For the members who don't know me, I am originally from Mamou, Louisiana, a small rural town in Evangeline Parish, approximately 45 minutes north of Lafayette, LA. My wife Jessica and I have been married for 16 years, and we are raising three children, Carson (17), Avery (14), and Collin (13). I graduated from LSU in 1998 with a BA in Environmental/Civil Engineering. Through my 20 years of experience, I have worked with the Environmental Section of the LaDOTD, the Coastal Restoration Division of the Department of Natural Resources (now CPRA), Facility Planning and Control, and for the past 11 years, with Royal Engineers and Consultants, LLC (Royal).

I became active with ASCE shortly after joining Royal and quickly realized the many benefits ASCE has to offer its members and our profession. One of ASCE's most important functions is the enhancement of the civil engineering profession and the integrity of its licensing standards. ASCE works with legislators and other engineering groups to help ensure our licensure requirements remain above standard levels and that special interests do not take precedence in the licensing process. Additionally, I routinely utilize and encourage others to take advantage of ASCE and its repository for technical design, project management, and code-specific and ethical publications and directives that are available to all members. One of the most enjoyable benefits I find that ASCE has to offer is the forum it provides where engineers from our profession can collaborate, develop relationships, and have access to a wider range of engineering backgrounds and knowledge. Here young members have the opportunity to interact with more experienced professionals, and there is always an avenue to discuss design issues facing engineers from other states and even other parts of the world.

Engineers throughout the country deal with large design and construction issues such as infrastructure, flooding, construction management, and resident inspection. While these are similar

problems that many of us are familiar with, they are often handled in differing ways from state-to-state. ASCE provides an avenue where we can learn from each other, collaborate on challenging civil engineering tasks, and advance the profession

together. I recently attended the 2019 ASCE National Engineering Conference where we learned about topics ranging from floating cities to design liability with performance-based contracting to living shorelines in urban port environments. While these topics are wide-ranging, we as engineers work hand in hand across all project types to continually advance design and construction standards to protect ethics and public safety while achieving successful implementation.

As President of the LA Section, my goals for the year include working with the ASCE Section, branches, affiliate groups, and student chapters to continue ongoing efforts to inform Louisiana of what the civil engineering profession and ASCE encompass. The *Dream Big* effort is a great avenue where ASCE members can reach out to children in grade school and spark interest in civil engineering. We will also continue our efforts in reaching out to low service areas in the northeast, central, and western parts of the state. I also will continue to work with branch members to keep active membership and provide service to the universities and students. Midterm and final exam support, extracurricular engineering-related activities, mentoring opportunities, and assisting in class design projects are all avenues where ASCE members can volunteer their time and make a difference. Lastly, I hope to build upon and strengthen the Louisiana Section's presence at the National level and enrich the Section/branch experience with new ASCE opportunities.

In closing, I look forward to a very productive year, would like congratulate all the ASCE award recipients from our September luncheon and officer induction meeting, and last but not least, would like to offer my thoughts and prayers to everyone involved with the recent tragedy of the Hard Rock Hotel development in New Orleans, LA.



Beau Tate, PE

# East Baton Rouge Parish Stormwater Master Plan

By Melissa Kennedy, PE



**Melissa Kennedy, PE**

The City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge experienced widespread flooding in August 2016. The floods brought to light the current challenges regarding existing stormwater conveyance systems, development and drainage ordinances, and their impact on overall stormwater management in the Parish. The Parish covers an area of approximately 470 square miles and includes the City of Baton Rouge and three incorporated communities within East Baton Rouge Parish: The City of Baker, the City of Zachary, and the City of Central. The City of Baton Rouge and the unincorporated areas of East Baton Rouge Parish operate as a consolidated government with responsibility for streets and drainage systems located within the remainder of the Parish.

While the Mississippi River forms the western boundary of the Parish, less than 20 percent of the Parish drains to it. The Amite River forms the eastern boundary of the Parish and serves as the primary drainage outfall for the region. The Comite River, which is the primary tributary to the Amite, flows through the central portion of the Parish. Approximately 42 percent of the land area in East Baton Rouge Parish has a potential of being flooded by a 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) event (100-Year).

Through a competitive procurement process the City-Parish contracted with HNTB and its' subconsultants (the HNTB Team) in November 2017 to develop a City-Parish Stormwater Master Plan (SMP). The SMP will help guide the Parish into the future with improved data, stormwater system projects and planning, and flood risk reduction. The HNTB team includes CSRS Inc., Natural Resources Professionals (NRP), Forte & Tablada, Franklin & Associates, Civil Solutions Consulting Group, Compliance Envirosystems (CES) and T. Baker Smith. The HNTB team will be delivering a data-driven and science-based SMP plan to address the current drainage and flooding issues and reduce the future overall risk of flooding throughout the Parish. The purpose of the SMP is to:

- Understand how the Parish's natural and man-made stormwater systems perform
- Develop a plan that addresses the current and future risks and impacts of local and regional flooding
- Communicate the plan and engage the public

The program has been organized into three phases as shown in the Figure 1.

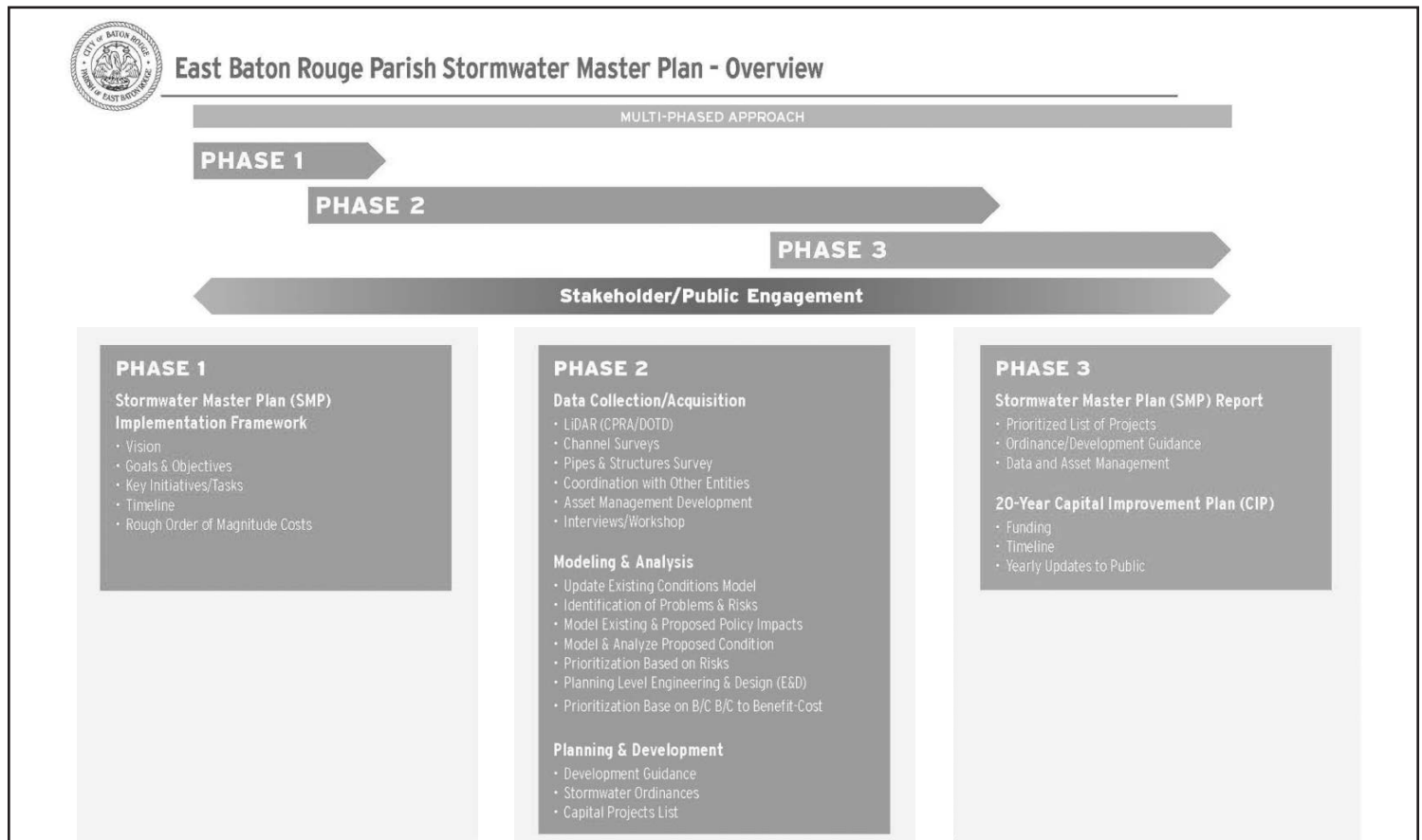


Figure 1. Stormwater Management Plan Phased Approach

**Phase 1**, which was completed in September 2018, included the development of the SMP Implementation Framework and development of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) applications. The purpose of the SMP Implementation Framework document was to summarize the purpose and goals of the SMP and how the SMP will be developed and implemented. The development of the Implementation Framework included a visioning workshop with key Parish staff where the following project goals were developed:

- Plan for a stormwater system that accounts for a warming climate
- Identify hazards, develop a comprehensive technical plan that reduces flood risk in the watershed and no downstream impacts
- Develop and build a stormwater plan that has minimal local/regulatory impact
- Develop and maintain the stormwater infrastructure

It also included extensive existing data collection including hydrologic and hydraulic models and reports, historic flood information, stream and rainfall gage information, development plans, ordinances, codes, guidance and regulations, survey/LiDAR, existing system maps, proposed project reports and other documents. Thousands of files were obtained, and a gap analysis was conducted to identify additional data needs moving forward.

Developing a plan for all of the watersheds in the Parish concurrently is not an efficient or cost-effective way of developing a SMP, therefore it is necessary to prioritize and stagger the required data collection and analysis by watershed to effectively manage resources and costs. Given this, the Parish was separated into 11 major watersheds, some of which include groupings of smaller watersheds that become interconnected during large flood events. The watersheds are shown in Figure 2.

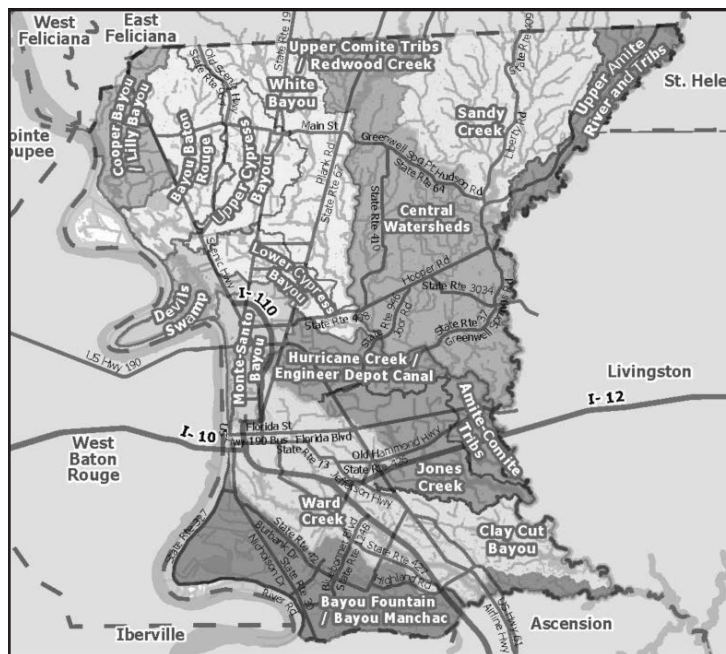
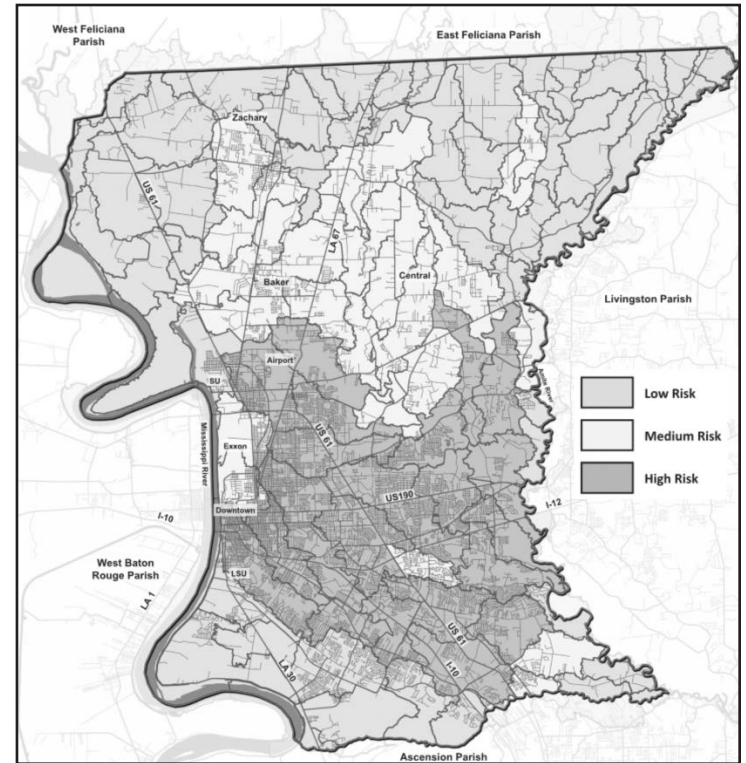


Figure 2. Parish watershed delineations

A risk analysis was performed to identify the varying degrees of risk by watershed geographic areas. The risk analysis evaluation included the 2016 flooding impacts, 100-yr floodplain extents, repetitive and severe repetitive loss structures, historical flooding/damages, critical infrastructure, and social vulnerability. The Parish area was delineated into low, medium, and high-risk topologies by watersheds as shown in Figure 3. During the development of the SMP the higher risk watersheds will be prioritized for analysis and development of flood risk reduction solutions first.





Several projects to date have been approved including the SMP, bank stabilization, bridge/culvert replacements, and removal of channel restrictions. Others are still in review by FEMA. The Parish is currently awaiting HUD approval of the match funding to proceed with the approved projects.

**Phase 2** includes the remaining work to develop the SMP. The project includes extensive data collection to add to the existing data provided by others. Fred Raiford, City-Parish Department of Transportation and Drainage, has insisted in obtaining and the utilization of existing information for efficiencies and cost savings. Data collection includes obtaining the existing sub surface storm system and GIS database development to expand on the work the Parish has already started. It includes additional channel and bridge/structure surveys to expand on that obtained already by DOTD and USACE. This data will be used to expand on models already developed by the team, DOTD, and USACE. Each of the 11 watersheds will be evaluated. The watershed-specific modeling includes the development of HEC-RAS 1D/2D models for open channels and floodplains for all watersheds, and EPA SWMM models for watersheds with extensive enclosed drainage systems. The complexity and time required for each will be based on the size, extent of development, risk, and availability or existing information or need to acquire it. Criteria will be determined for the models to establish existing conditions, rainfall intensities and events to be analyzed. Models will be calibrated to stream gage data and the numerous highwater marks that exist for prior events, particularly for the August 2016 flood. The models will be utilized to determine the extent of flooding for various events and identify the impacts or flood hazards. Once this is completed for a particular watershed, potential projects will be identified and evaluated to reduce the risk of flooding. A qualitative screening process will be developed for the initial list of projects along with a quantitative analysis process for developing benefit/cost (B/C) information for the screened projects.

In addition to structural projects, other risk mitigation factors will be evaluated. These will include potential updates to the development and drainage ordinances and codes and requirements to potentially address changes in rainfall frequency design criteria, sea level rise, fill requirements, and conveyance, for example. Flood zone maps will be developed to help define and direct how development occurs in the floodplain. The plan may suggest land use recommendations such as buffers, conservation areas, development limitations. It could also consider potential flood monitoring and forecasting.

**Phase 3** includes the preparation of the SMP document as well as the development of a 20-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP will be based on a prioritization of the developed flood risk reduction projects with public input. Investigations of methods to fund the 20-Year CIP will be performed and will include recommendations for some projects to be “shovel ready” in anticipation of near-term funding opportunities. The focus of the funding plan for the SMP project is to develop a resource that will address stormwater program financing for the 20-Year CIP projects and potentially beyond. It will include researching and documenting procedural, legal, and financial considerations in developing viable funding approaches. A range of possible approaches to paying for

stormwater management will be examined and address various sources of funding. Legal considerations and implementation of stormwater funding programs will be outlined.

The SMP plan is scheduled to be completed within 2 ½ years once full funding is approved. The SMP process will also serve as a vehicle to educate the general public and specific stakeholders about the process, about trade-offs, and to collect ideas and concerns for inclusion in the planning process and implementation. It is vitally important that the public be engaged in all phases of the SMP project as public input is valuable to assist in identifying location-specific problem areas and providing feedback on potential capital improvements and proposed parish ordinances and legislation. It is also advantageous to gauge the public's tolerance for risk and willingness to fund any necessary capital and operating costs.

A comprehensive public engagement plan will be written and presented to the Parish at the beginning of the SMP project. The plan will include project branding to establish a unique and concise identity for the life of the project.

It will include coordination with stakeholders, partners, elected officials and general public. Project stakeholders will be identified including representatives of constituency groups such as industries, real estate developers, local governments, and neighborhoods to ensure representation of key user groups and of traditionally disenfranchised populations. Stakeholders groups will be used to inform the stakeholders of project status and goals, provide an opportunity to solicit feedback from them, and set/manage expectations of project outcomes. Project partners consist of agency representatives that could include representatives such as the Parishes, LDEQ, USEPA, FEMA, HUD, USACE, DOTD, the Office of Community Development, and similar organizations. This group will influence aspects of the plan including: regulatory reviews, flooding assessments, water quality assessment, funding governance and maintenance reviews. Open house style public meetings will be conducted. These meetings will be geographically distributed to maximize contact with the public. There will also be conclusion or “wrap-up” public meetings at or near the end of the project period. In addition, engagements may be targeted to specific neighborhoods and locations within the parish based on the watersheds and risk assessment. Coordination with elected officials will include attendance at Metro Council meetings to provide status updates and meetings with Metro Council members will be conducted on a watershed basis. In addition, it is anticipated that legislative and congressional briefings will be conducted.

The plan will include media efforts such as website development, use of social media, news articles and public service announcements.

**Phase 2 Initiation.** While awaiting FEMA approval of the SMP HMGP project, the Parish provided some limited funding to start Phase 2. This included continued efforts on the HMGP applications for approval by FEMA, including conducting Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), responding to the Request for Information (RFIs) and performing/providing additional analyses. The initiation of Phase 2 included the surface channels and structures survey and the beginning of



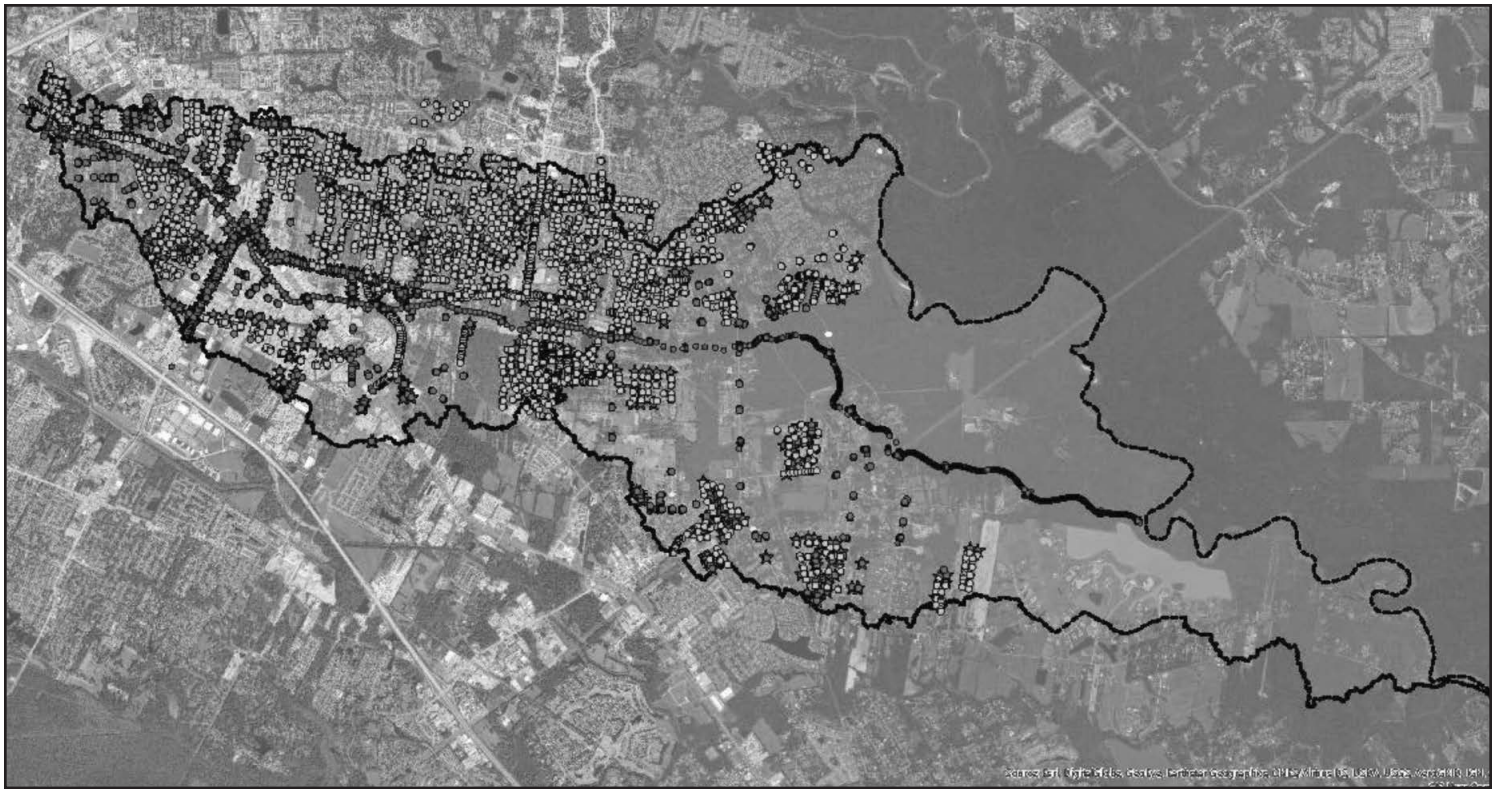


Figure 4. Clay Cut Bayou Initial subsurface stormwater system data collection map

subsurface data collection in the Clay Cut Bayou watershed. This watershed was selected as the test case for the subsurface data collection and GIS database development based on its size and risk. Coordination was conducted with the Parish to update the existing subsurface stormwater database to consolidate features and provide more detail on the subsurface structures. The subsurface stormwater collection on each structure includes type, size, general condition, connecting pipes information, and inverts in real time GIS platform. It includes 360-degree photos of the structure that will be linked in the database. The collection of data on Clay Cut Bayou watershed provided information to develop the standard for data collection on the remaining watersheds. Figure 4 shows the initial subsurface data collection in the Clay Cut watershed.

Review of stormwater and floodplain ordinances, criteria, and guidance was completed as a first step towards potential updates to current documents. As a result of this initial review, a few of the existing guidance documents were revised for clarity and uploaded on the Parish website. These included the Subdivision Checklist for Construction Plans, Hydrology and Hydraulics Design Criteria, and Storm Water management and Floodplain Requirements.

In addition, initial evaluation of rainfall intensity, sea level rise, and critical storm duration on various size developments has been started to determine if there should be revisions in current documents. These analyses will be supplemented with additional analysis when funding for completion of Phase 2 is provided, prior to any proposed revisions being recommended.

The project team is currently awaiting full funding approval to initiate the full work plan for the SMP. As previously indicated, the priority will be in the higher risk areas. The order of work also takes into consideration the availability of existing data sets. For example, the survey of the surface stormwater system is complete in Clay Cut Bayou, mostly completed in Jones Creek (USACE), a significant portion completed in Wards Creek and Bayou Fountain (USACE). The subsurface data collection is mostly complete in Clay Cut Bayou. In addition, watershed models have already been developed by USACE for Jones Creek, Wards Creek and Bayou Fountain. Therefore, to take advantage of existing data, the supplemental data collection needs and modeling of these watersheds will be the focus, while data collection is initiated in the other higher risk watersheds.

#### Melissa Kennedy, PE

Ms. Kennedy is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. Melissa is a senior project manager in the HNTB Baton Rouge's Civil Department responsible for field investigations, studies, and design for water resources, environmental and municipal projects ranging in size from \$10,000 to more than \$10 million. As a project manager, Melissa is responsible for budget and schedule control, contractor tendering, client liaison, contract administration, permit acquisition, preparing reports and construction documents. She has been in consulting for the past 18 years and prior to that, spent 15 years with the Corps of Engineers responsible for water resources planning, design, and engineering. She is currently the project manager for the \$15M East Baton Rouge Stormwater Master Plan.



# 2019 ASCE Convention

*By Beau Tate, PE*

The 2019 ASCE Convention was held on October 10-13, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency in Miami, Florida. The conference attendance included visitors from all over the world. The Louisiana Section was represented by Section President Beau Tate, PE and Baton Rouge Branch President Jarret Bauer, PE. Also 2017 ASCE National President, Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE, attended along with Ronnie Schumann, Jr., PE Region 5 Governor-at-Large.

The theme of the conference was Engineering>Innovating>Leading. The conference presented many opportunities for technical tours, community service projects, technical presentations, leader's luncheon, student and emerging leader's breakfast, and short courses. The sessions of the conference offered valuable lessons learned in the industry and profession. The participants were able to secure up to 16.5 Professional Development Hours (PDHs). The convention kicked off on Thursday morning with registration, a community service project and 4 possible technical tours attendees could attend. The following morning included the opening plenary session which included remarks from 2019 ASCE President Robin A. Kemper, PE. This was followed by the opening keynote address by Alex McDowell. He discussed ASCE's Future World Vision "The Floating City" <https://www.futureworldvision.org/>, which takes you into a deep dive into the design process and end user experience of a virtual city of the future. He also walked everyone through its evolution as it develops over a 50 year horizon. Friday's program also included the Celebration of Leaders Luncheon, which inducted 10 Distinguished Members of the Class of 2019. Saturday started with the ASCE Annual Membership Meeting, Society Awards, installation of new Officers. This meeting concluded with inaugural remarks given by 2020 ASCE President Kanceepuram N. Gunalan, PhD, PE, D.GE, F.ASCE.

Technical tours included the Port of Miami, Downtown Miami Pump Stations, University of Miami Wave and Wind Facility, and Sea-Level Rise Projects in South Beach. The program also offered several non-technical tours of local destination which included the Miami Everglades Experience and the South Beach Culinary Tour. The convention presentation and

discussion topics included (i) History and Heritage, (ii) Professional Development, (iii) Multidisciplinary Technical, (iv) Natural and Man-Made Disasters, (v) Significant Projects, (vi) Strategic Issues/Public Policy, and (vii) State of The Industry/Profession.

The convention included several events, breaks, and meetings that facilitated member networking. The program also provided great networking opportunity for the students as they communicated with industry leaders and students from other chapters.

The 2020 ASCE convention will be held in Anaheim, California on October 29-November 01, 2020.



## ASCE Region 5

By Peter M. Moore, PE, ENV SP, F. ASCE



Peter M. Moore, PE, ENV SP, F. ASCE

### Member Experience, Society Alignment Key to Board Actions

Peter M. Moore, PE, F.ASCE, your Region 5 Director, is a member of the Florida Section. Peter represented you at the Oct. 14-15 Board meeting in Miami. The ASCE 2019 Convention went to sunny South Florida this month for an excellent weekend of informative sessions, engaging speakers and an absolutely inspiring launch of ASCE's Future World Vision Floating City experience. Following the convention, the Board of Direction had its final meeting of the year. It was a packed agenda, as usual, and we took some exciting steps toward further improving the member experience in our Society, while also strengthening the alignment between our many groups and programs.

### Highlights from the Board meeting:

- The Board voted to approve a new Society-wide digital strategy project, which will help create an improved user experience that makes connecting with ASCE resources, programs and members easier than ever.
- The Board received a membership update, specifically outlining ASCE's new Forward Faster campaign to help attract and retain members. The Forward Faster campaign, emphasizing "how ASCE is your direct path to the future of civil engineering," is an exciting start.
- The Board also heard an update on Future World Vision. The Floating City virtual reality proof-of-concept was very well-received in Miami, and we're excited about the project's direction heading into 2020.
- Having charged ASCE executive staff at the July meeting to bring a three-year balanced budget plan to the October meeting for review, the Board received the new three-year plan and showed its support with an informal vote of approval.
- The Board received an update on ASCE's progress on the Grand Challenge, including new recommendations from the Industry Leaders Council that have been referred to ASCE Organizational Entities.

The first Board meeting of 2020 is scheduled for Jan. 8 in Detroit.  
\* Remember, the R5BoG is made up of seven Governors who are willing and able to help:

Jeff Earhart (FL): [jeff.earhart@cpwgengineering.com](mailto:jeff.earhart@cpwgengineering.com)

Katherine Gurd (GA): [katherine.gurd@aecom.com](mailto:katherine.gurd@aecom.com)

Sarah L. Matin (FL): [SarahL.Matin@rinkerpipe.com](mailto:SarahL.Matin@rinkerpipe.com)

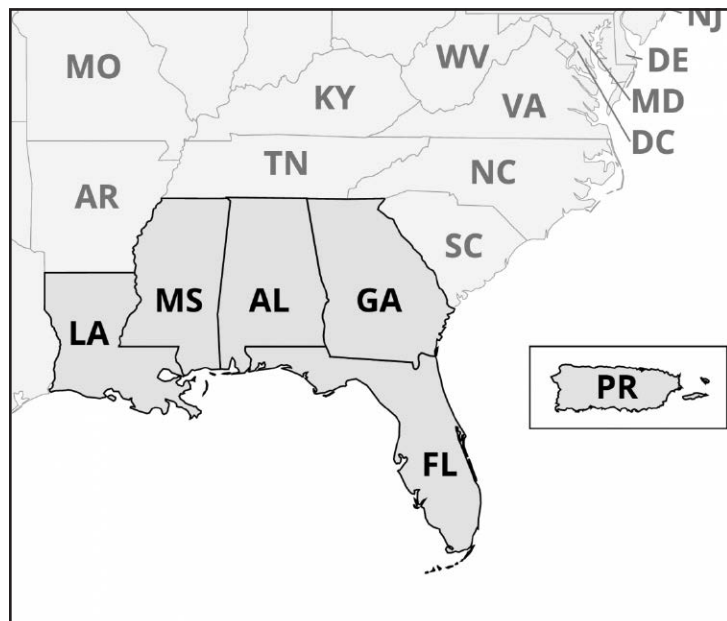
Ali Mustapha (LA): [alimm@bellsouth.net](mailto:alimm@bellsouth.net)

Lawren Pratt (AL): [Lawren.Pratt@kbr.com](mailto:Lawren.Pratt@kbr.com)

Ronald L. Schumann, Jr. (LA): [RSchumann@ilsengineering.com](mailto:RSchumann@ilsengineering.com)

Shelly Watson (MS): [sbwatson@ara.com](mailto:sbwatson@ara.com)

To share your views or provide ideas on how ASCE can better serve its members and the profession, please email Peter at [mailto:pmoore@chenmoore.com](mailto:mailto:pmoore@chenmoore.com).



Region 5 is comprised of all the Sections and Branches within the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Puerto Rico



# 2019 ASCE Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon

The 2019 Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon was held on September 27, 2019 at Abbacus Restaurant in Lafayette and was hosted by the Acadiana Branch. Acadiana President Jacob Neu, EI, called the meeting to order, gave the invocation, and welcomed everyone to the luncheon. Section President Rudy Simoneaux III, PE made the opening remarks and introduced Brant Richard, Section Awards Committee Chair.

Continuing the presentations, Louisiana Section Awards Committee Chair Brant Richard, PE 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. Brant also thanked the awards committee for their efforts in reviewing the numerous nominations and assisting in selecting this year's recipients.

After Brant presented the Section Awards, Section President Rudy Simoneaux III, PE announced the final award of the ceremony, the **President's Medal**, to **Sarah Ollenburger, PE**. This award was given to Sarah because of her hard work on distributing the Section's Dream Big initiative, bringing the Civil Engineering Movie to school children throughout the Baton Rouge Branch area.



Sarah Ollenburger, PE – President's Medal

Ali Mustapha, PE, Region 5 Governor installed the officers for the Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.



Installation of the 2019-2020 Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers Officers by Ali Mustapha, PE, Region 5 Governor



## **ASCE LA Section 2019-2020 Officers:**

Beau Tate, PE, *President*

Joe E. "Butch" Ford, Jr., PE, *President Elect*

Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE, PE, *Vice President*

Kirk Lowery, PE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Rudolph Simoneaux III, PE, *Past President*

## **The Board of Directors are:**

### **Branch Directors**

Jacob Neu, EI, Acadiana President

Jarret Bauer, PE, Baton Rouge President

Dean Nicoladis, PE, New Orleans President

Linsey Brooke Olivier, EI, Shreveport President

### **Assigned Branch Directors**

Jared Veazey, PE, Acadiana Director

Sarah Ollenburger, PE, Baton Rouge Director

Andrew Woodroof, PE, New Orleans Director

Mitch Guy, PE, Shreveport Director



### **Directors-at-Large**

Brant Richard, PE, Baton Rouge Director  
Nathan Junius, PE, PLS, New Orleans Director

### **Regional Governor**

Ali Mustapha, PE

### **Regional Governor At Large**

Ronald Schumann, Jr., PE

The outgoing President Rudy Simoneaux III, PE and incoming Beau Tate, PE exchanging the President's Plaque and Past-President pin.

Beau Tate, PE the new Section President then congratulated the new board. Tate closed the luncheon by presenting his goals for his upcoming presidency and thanked everyone for attending. The program ended with a short Section Board meeting.



*Outgoing President Rudy Simoneaux III, PE and incoming Beau Tate, PE exchanging the President's Plaque and Past-President pin*



## **2019-2020 ASCE Louisiana Section Leadership**



*L to R: Ali Mustapha, Jarret Bauer, Linsey Brooke Olivier, Tonja Koob Marking, Rudy Simoneaux, Brant Richard, Beau Tate, Kirk Lowery, Butch Ford, Andrew Woodroof, Ronnie Schumann, Jacob Neu, and Dean Nicoladis (Not pictured: Nathan Junius, Jared Veazey, and Mitch Guy)*

## 2019-2020 ASCE Louisiana Section Officers



**Beau Tate, PE**  
*President*



**Joe "Butch" Ford Jr., PE**  
*President-Elect*



**Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE**  
*Vice-President*



**Kirk Lowery, PE**  
*Secretary-Treasurer*



**Rudolph Simoneaux, PE**  
*Past President*

## 2019 Louisiana Section Awards



**Yelena Rivera, PE**  
*Outstanding Young Civil Engineer*



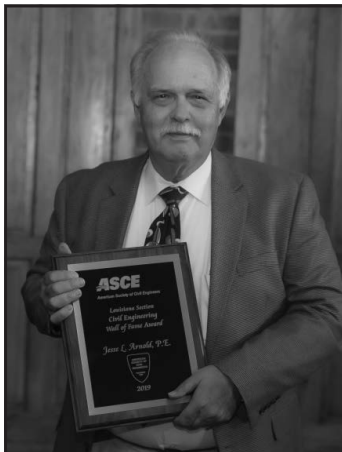
**Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE**  
*Outstanding Civil Engineer*



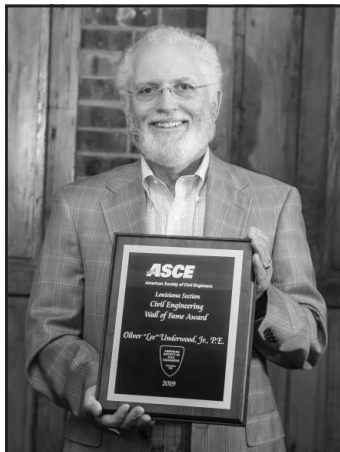
**Alicia Sellers, EI**  
*Outreach Award*



**Roger Seals, PhD, PE**  
*Lifetime Achievement Award*



**Jesse L. Arnold, PE**  
*Wall of Fame*



**Oliver "Lee" Underwood, Jr., PE**  
*Wall of Fame*

**Not Pictured:**  
**Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE**  
*Educator of the Year Award*

**Frank Nicholadis, PE**  
*Wall of Fame (award accepted by his son)*

**Allison J.P. "Sonny" Launey, PE**  
*Wall of Fame*

## 2019-2020 ASCE Louisiana Section Board of Directors



**Jacob Neu, EI**  
*Acadiana Branch Director*



**Jarret Bauer, PE**  
*Baton Rouge Branch Director*



**Dean Nicoladis, PE**  
*New Orleans Branch Director*



**Linsey Brooke Olivier, EI**  
*Shreveport Branch Director*



**Brant Richard, PE**  
*Director-at-Large*  
*Baton Rouge Director*



**Nathan Junius, PE, PLS**  
*Director-at-Large*  
*New Orleans Director*



**Jared Veazey, PE**  
*Assigned Branch Director*  
*Acadiana Director*



**Sarah Ollenburger, PE**  
*Assigned Branch Director*  
*Baton Rouge Director*



**Andrew Woodroof, PE**  
*Assigned Branch Director*  
*New Orleans Director*



**Mitch Guy, PE**  
*Assigned Branch Director*  
*Shreveport Director*



**Ali Mustapha, PE**  
*Regional Governor*



**Ronald Schumann, Jr., PE**  
*Regional Governor At Large*



# ASCE-COPRI Louisiana Chapter News

By Victoria Curto, PE, Director - Communications



COAST, OCEANS,  
PORTS AND RIVERS  
INSTITUTE

Louisiana Chapter

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 seminars and providing scholarship opportunities to Louisiana students.

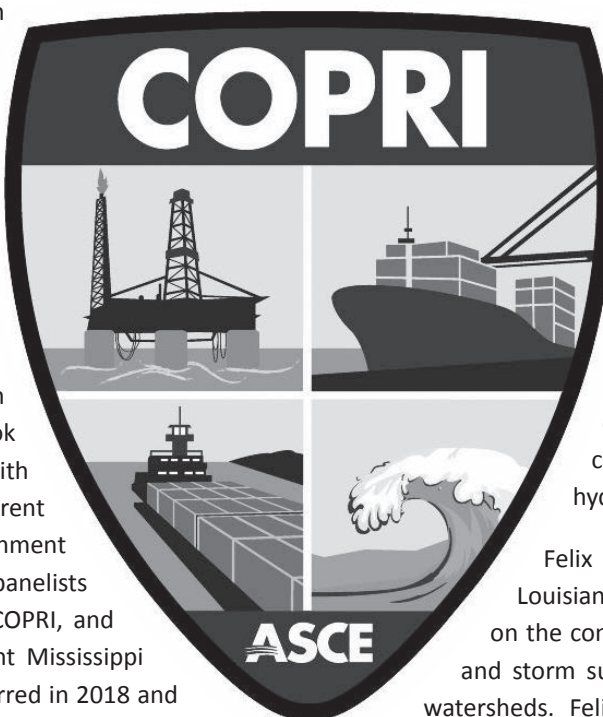
## L.COPRI Fall Seminar 2019

L.COPRI held their fall seminar on November 14, 2019 at the Lod Cook Conference Center in Baton Rouge with several people attending from different sectors including consultants, government agencies, and academia. Speakers and panelists addressed each of the four pillars of COPRI, and how they were impacted by the recent Mississippi River and Tributaries flooding that occurred in 2018 and 2019.

The topics included: *Precision Navigation with a Focus on the Utilization of the Mississippi Corridor* by Tim Osborn and Sean Duffy; *Historic 2019 Mississippi River Flood* by Joey Windham; *Management of the Lower Mississippi River* by John Lopez, Bren Haase, Moby Solangi, Joe Spraggins, and Clint Willson; *Experiences During Periods of High Water at Various Ports Across Louisiana* by Tyler Comeaux, Brian Cox, Wyly Gilfoil, Jacob Crist, and Randall Withers; *2019 Gulf of Mexico Hypoxic Zone and Impacts* by Nancy Rabalais, and *A National Perspective on Inland Waterways* by Norma Jean Mattei who wrapped up the seminar.

## L.COPRI Scholarship 2019

The Louisiana COPRI chapter has an active student member group. To encourage students in Louisiana, the executive committee unanimously agreed to award two scholarships of \$1,000 each: one for an undergraduate student and second one for a graduate student. L.COPRI received a total of 19 application from eligible candidates whose applications were evaluated based on their GPA, involvement in COPRI activities, understanding of COPRI functions, and an essay on how they intend to help the nation's coasts, oceans, ports, and rivers. Out of all the well qualified students, Blade Leger (undergraduate student) and Felix Santiago-Collazo (graduate student) were awarded the 2019 L.COPRI annual scholarships, which were awarded at the COPRI fall seminar held in Baton Rouge on November 14, 2019.



Blade Leger is an undergraduate student at University of Louisiana at Lafayette with outstanding extracurricular activities in the COPRI fields. Blade has participated in Clean the Cost in the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge in Southwest Louisiana for the past years. Blade will also be partnering with Resource Environmental Solutions to plant marsh grass along the Louisiana coast. He is an ASCE and CHI Epsilon officer. His biggest interest for a future career is in the field of environmental, hydrology, and hydraulic engineering.

Felix Santiago-Collazo is a PhD student at Louisiana State University. His research focuses on the compound flood produced by rainfall-runoff and storm surge during a hurricane event in coastal watersheds. Felix has an outstanding GPA and is the current president of COPRI-LSU. As an EIT in Puerto Rico he has helped develop hydrology and hydraulic studies for flood relief structures. His research will serve as a holistic tool for decision-makers by providing aid in disaster evacuation and planning.

## Other Information

The L.COPRI board has an opening for the YPG Chair. Interested people in joining the board please contact us. For more information on all COPRI conferences, please visit <http://www.asce.org/coasts-oceans-ports-and-rivers-engineering/coastal-engineering-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 Victoria Curto, at [LCOPRI@yahoo.com](mailto:LCOPRI@yahoo.com).



## LEGISLATIVE FLY-IN

Are you an ASCE member interested in walking the halls of Capitol Hill and learning firsthand how policy is crafted?

Every spring, ASCE holds its Legislative Fly-In Program in Washington, DC, an intensive two-day program that provides participants with an inside look at the public policy process. At the 2019 event, over 250 ASCE members visited over 360 Congressional offices (that includes nearly two-thirds of the House of Representatives), advocating for a 25-cent per gallon motor fuels tax increase to help fix the Federal Highway Trust Fund, full funding of key infrastructure programs in FY2020 and urged Members of Congress to follow ASCE's Principles for Investment as they draft a bipartisan infrastructure bill as well as urging Members of Congress to draft a comprehensive infrastructure bill.

## 2020 FLY-IN

The 2020 Legislative Fly-In is now accepting applications. This year's event takes place on March 11–12, 2020 in Washington, D.C..

The Fly-in program includes:

- Meetings on The Hill with your Members of Congress or their staff
- Briefing sessions on key legislation active in Congress and ASCE's legislative priorities.
- Training on lobbying and influencing your elected leaders — including pre-event webinars
- Networking with your ASCE peers from across the country
- A Younger Member Program
- Tips on continuing relationships with your elected officials once you return home

To be good stewards of ASCE funds a registration fee will be collected to participate in this event. Registration fees will be \$39 for early-bird registration fee and at \$59 for regular registration. No fee is required to apply. It will be collected during the registration process once you have been selected to attend the Legislative Fly-In. ASCE Government Relations offers a limited number of travel awards to help defray some travel costs. The remaining travel costs are the responsibility of the attendee.

The application deadline is November 21, 2019. We will notify selected attendees on a rolling basis beginning December 6, 2019. For additional information, check out our frequently asked questions or contact us at [govwash@asce.org](mailto:govwash@asce.org) or 202-789-7850.



*Younger Member Molly Bourgoyne, MS, PE meets with Louisiana Representative Garret Graves at the 2019 Fly-in*

## Louisiana U.S. Senators and Representatives

Senator Bill Cassidy  
January 3, 2015 – present

Senator John N. Kennedy  
January 3, 2017 – present

Steve Scalise (1st Dist. – Jefferson)  
May 3, 2008 – present

Cedric Richmond (2nd Dist. – New Orleans)  
January 3, 2011 – present

Clay Higgins (3rd Dist. – Port Barre)  
January 3, 2017 – present

Mike Johnson (4th Dist. – Benton)  
January 3, 2017 – present

Ralph Abraham (5th Dist. – Mangham)  
January 3, 2015 – present

Garret Graves (6th Dist. – Baton Rouge)  
January 3, 2015 – present

# POLICY STATEMENT 463 - HISTORY AND HERITAGE

*By Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE*

Approved by the Committee on Advancing the Professional on November 6, 2017

Approved by the Public Policy Committee on March 13, 2018

Adopted by the Board of Direction on July 13, 2018

## POLICY

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) supports programs that promote the knowledge of the history and heritage of civil engineering as an integral component of education and professional practice. ASCE believes that methods to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the history and heritage of civil engineering while enhancing the image of civil engineering include:

Encouraging civil engineers to be knowledgeable about the heritage of their profession, and where possible share this knowledge with engineering students, as well as other students, colleagues and the general public;

- Focusing action at the national, state and local levels through support of history and heritage programs in ASCE and other professional organizations;
- Encouraging civil engineering faculties to incorporate a history and heritage component into existing courses; and
- Encouraging civil engineering programs to include historical perspectives in their Program Outcomes.

## ISSUE

A vital component in the development of an individual as a professional is an understanding and appreciation of the history and heritage of one's chosen profession. To be effective, professional civil engineers should draw upon their broad education to analyze the impacts of historical issues on engineering and analyze the impact of engineering on the world. The engineering design cycle illustrates the dual nature of this outcome. In defining, formulating and solving an engineering problem, engineers must consider the impacts of historical events. As the content of engineering programs condenses to accommodate a school's graduation requirements, engineering departments and faculty members may find it very difficult to include specific course material related to historical issues. As a result, learning opportunities which expose a student's intellectual and professional development in areas such as history and heritage are often sacrificed.

The policy reinforces the objectives of ASCE Policy Statement 465 on Civil Engineering Education ("Raise the Bar") and the current edition of the Body of Knowledge which includes historical perspectives as an outcome. The Body of Knowledge addresses this issue by establishing fundamental educational outcomes and associated levels of achievement for specific stages of education or professional practice.

## RATIONALE

Knowledge of history and heritage helps communicate the importance of the civil engineering profession to society. Henry Petroski, noted engineering historian, stated that "the value of engineering history goes beyond its being part of the liberal education of an engineer. Engineering history is useful, if not essential, to understanding the nature of engineering; it also assists in the practice of the profession. We gain perspective across fields of engineering by knowing their various and interrelated histories. A historical perspective assists engineers in identifying failure modes and catching errors in logic and design. Engineering history, in short, is engineering as well as history." (International History and Heritage. 2001. ASCE, Reston, Va.)

For more information or to volunteer for the **Louisiana Section History & Heritage Committee** please contact Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE at email: [tonja.k.marking@gaeaconsultants.com](mailto:tonja.k.marking@gaeaconsultants.com).



***Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE***

# ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter News

By Michael Paul, PE - Newsletter Editor



TRANSPORTATION  
& DEVELOPMENT  
INSTITUTE  
LOUISIANA CHAPTER

## T&DI Louisiana

### 10 Year Anniversary

This year marks the 10 year anniversary of the ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter. It was back in January 2009 that the first T&DI by-laws were adopted. The first seminar was presented in July of that year by Eric Kalivoda, PhD, PE on the topic of Design Build Delivery. Thank you to all those who have supported T&DI.

### Election of New Officers

The Chapter would like to acknowledge the contributions of our 2018-2019 officers. For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Gavin Gautreau has assumed the Chair position; Joffrey Easley will serve as Vice Chair; Jim Simmons will continue to serve as Treasurer; and Michael Paul will continue to serve as Newsletter Editor.

### Announcement of New Members

The T&DI Executive Committee would like to welcome two new members, Reddy Nandipati, PE and Roy Payne, PE. Nandipati is a Member/Senior Environmental Engineer with Accu-Environmental, LLC where his areas of specialization are environmental site assessments, permits and compliance. Nandipati received BS and MS degrees in chemical engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology and Andhra University, Waltair, India. He earned his MS degree in environmental engineering at Tulane University. Payne is Principal at Providence Engineering and Design, LLC and has a wide variety of experience in transportation and wastewater projects. Payne received his BS degree in civil engineering from Louisiana State University. We are excited to have Nandipati and Payne join the Executive Committee.

### Louisiana T&DI Scholarship Program

One of the long-term goals of the T&DI Louisiana chapter was to start and sustain a scholarship program. That goal was achieved during 2012 fiscal year with the formation of a scholarship subcommittee. For the eighth year in a row T&DI plans to award two \$500

scholarships; the funding is provided by using a portion of our seminar proceeds. The first announcement has been issued to various university civil engineering department heads across the state. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and awardees will be announced in the next Newsletter issue.

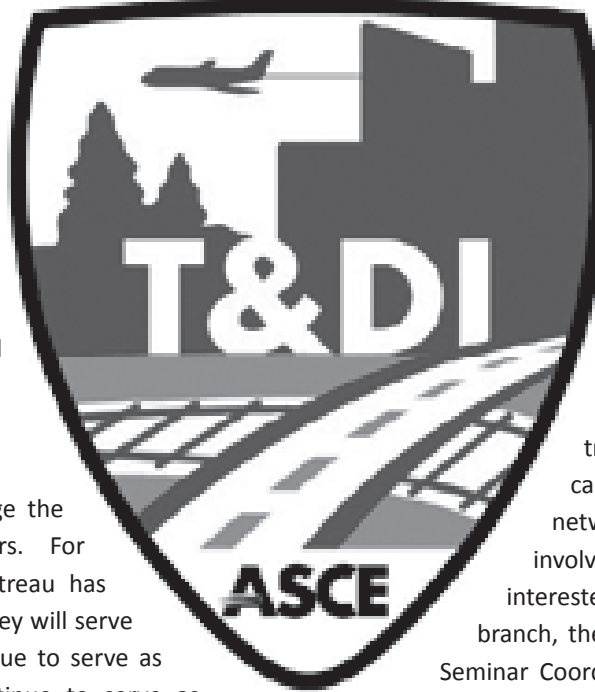
### Looking Ahead

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 Gavin Gautreau [Gavin.Gautreau@LA.GOV](mailto:Gavin.Gautreau@LA.GOV) or 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 outreach 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:

- Ethics
- Asset Management for Agencies
- Post=Placement Asphalt Technology
- Mitigation Banking
- Green Infrastructure: Integrating Infrastructure Needs
- Short Span Steel bridge Alliance (SSSBA)
- Complete Streets / Bicycle Lanes



# Branch News



Jacob Neu, EI

## ACADIANA BRANCH

*By Jacob Neu, EI, Branch President*

Greetings!

I would like to start off by thanking our ASCE Acadiana Branch members for attending our events so far in the 2019-2020 term. The Branch has hosted several events this fall, which have all been well attended. The officers of the Branch have been working hard to grow and develop the Branch so that it continues to be a great resource for our members, and it is very rewarding for the board to experience such great support.

**President** — Jacob Neu, EI

**President-Elect** — Algy Semien, EI

**Secretary** — Grant Besse, PE

**Treasurer** — Carolyn Chapman, EI

**Past President** — William Cenac, PE

**Public Relations/Outreach Coordinator** — Paul Cazayoux, PE

**Newsletter Editor** — Jessica Calderera, PE

**Webmaster** — Jared Veazey, PE

The first ASCE event this fall took place early in September, where the UL student chapter hosted their annual fall BBQ. This networking event provides new students with the opportunity to meet civil engineering faculty, working professionals, members of the Acadiana Branch, and other students who share similar interests.

Later in September, the Branch hosted the Louisiana Section during our regularly scheduled monthly luncheon. This meeting included an induction ceremony for 2019-2020 officers of the Section. In addition, annual Section awards were given out to civil engineers who have demonstrated outstanding character and have distinguished themselves professionally. The Branch is proud of these award recipients.

In October, the Branch hosted a free dinner PDH session, held our regular monthly luncheon, and held a social event at the office of Royal Engineers & Consultants in Lafayette. The Branch thanks Beau Tate, PE and Mitch Andrus, PE for allowing the Branch to host this event.

In other news, the UL and MSU student chapters are working together to plan a volunteering event in Rockefeller Refuge called "Clean the Coast". These student chapters have conducted several of these events since the fall of 2016, which has removed a substantial amount of trash from the area. Our Branch proudly supports these students and encourages all members of the Section to help recognize the outstanding efforts of these students.

Regarding the 2020 ASCE Section Spring Conference in Lafayette, the Branch would again like to thank our golf tournament sponsors and participants. This tournament was a tremendous success and has put the Acadiana Branch in a great place to host this conference. If you are interested in being a speaker or having a presentation at the conference, please reach out to the Branch at [asceacadiana@outlook.com](mailto:asceacadiana@outlook.com).

Lastly, we would like to notify fellow members and colleagues that two officer positions for the branch have been filled. Jared Veazey, PE has volunteered to be the Branch Webmaster, and Jessica Calderera, PE has volunteered to become the Newsletter Editor. The Branch thanks these members for their continued support.

Overall, the Branch will have a very busy year, but looks forward to serving its members and all members of the Section!

Please visit us at <http://branches.asce.org/acadiana/home> or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ASCEAcadiana/>.



ASCE Acadiana 2019-2020 Board. L to R: Will Cenac, PE; Grant Besse, PE; Jacob Neu, EI; Carolyn Chapman, EI, and Algy Semien, EI (Not pictured: Paul Cazayoux, PE; Jessica Calderera, PE, and Jared Veazey, PE)





## BATON ROUGE BRANCH

*By Jarret Bauer, PE, Branch President*

The ASCE Baton Rouge Branch is poised for another great year. New board members have been sworn in and are busy planning a year filled with community involvement and technical discussion. Congratulations to our new board members, to those members advancing positions, and thank you to all of our respective employers for their willingness to support the time and commitment necessary to serve on the Board. Please take a moment to recognize those individuals, and their firms, listed below:

**President** — Jarret Bauer, PE  
**President-Elect** — Mary “Molly” Bourgoyne, MS, PE  
**Vice President** — Tyler Branch, PE  
**Secretary** — Venu Tammineni, PE  
**Treasurer** — Alicia Sellers, EI  
**Past President** — Sarah Ollenburger, PE  
**Director of Programs** — Robert “Robb” Jewell, PE  
**Education Director & Younger Member Chair** — Jack Koban, PhD, PE, PG  
**Director of Membership** — Nedra Hains, MA  
**LSU Practitioner Advisor** — Josh Olivier, EI  
**SUBR Practitioner Advisor** — Jamal Steib, EI



*Louisiana Section Board President 2018-2019, Rudy Simoneaux III, PE installs the Baton Rouge Board. L to R: Sarah Ollenburger, PE; Jarret Bauer, PE; Molly Bourgoyne, PE; Alicia Sellers, EI; Josh Olivier, EI; Jamal Steib, EI; Nedra Hains, MA; Venu Tammineni, PE; and Rob Jewell, PE (not pictured: Tyler Branch, PE and Jack Koban, PhD, PE, PG)*

### Our Goals and Objectives

**Community Involvement:** The Board aims to continue our community involvement with local primary and middle schools, including promoting Dream Big and Engineer It for Kids, as well as our annual scholarships to qualified LSU and SUBR students.

**Luncheon Attendance:** We have seen some great attendance at our monthly luncheons. So much so, we have been at or over capacity for much of the year. As such, we have made commitment to secure the large room at Juban’s Restaurant whenever possible to ensure the best possible experience for all.

**Our Membership:** We hope to tailor our offerings for speakers, community engagement, and inter-disciplinary events to what matters to our membership. This year we intend to focus our offerings on member feedback and promote relationships between multiple societies and organizations. Please don’t hesitate to lend us your opinion if there is a topic, or professional group connection, you would like us to explore further as a society. We have already

made some changes in how we address our sponsors at the monthly luncheons and hope to further reflect your feedback as we continue through the year.

### October Luncheon

Our October luncheon was held at Juban’s Restaurant with Tyler Ortego, PE on hand to present his topic “Let the Oysters do the Work.” His presentation focused on combining oyster habitats as a natural and effective coastal restoration feature.

### November Luncheon

The Baton Rouge Branch hosted an offsite luncheon with Tran-SET, the Transportation Consortium of South-Central States at LSU, which was set up to explore the new technologies within the transportation infrastructure field. The visit included an overview of Tran-SET initiatives and tours of several equipment simulators, their Virtual Reality BIM Cave, and materials testing labs.

### Engineer It for Kids

We continue to sponsor and support our local middle and elementary schools by participating with them in fun and educational engineering activities. These activities use on-hand materials to construct bridges and buildings in a fun competition between the students. The structures are subject to basic external forces to test their designs. The competitions are held over a 1-2 hr period, and have been rewarding for all involved. So far, our schedule this year includes



*Alicia Sellers, EI volunteers for Engineer It! for Kids*

Sherwood Middle School, Cedarcrest-Southmoor Elementary, White Hills Elementary, and Woodlawn Elementary. Please contact the board for more information if you are interested in participating.

### Baton Rouge Member Receives the LA Section President’s Medal

ASCE Baton Rouge Branch is extremely proud of our current Past President, Sarah Ollenburger. Sarah was recently named the ASCE LA Section President’s Medal Award recipient. The ASCE Louisiana Section President’s Medal is awarded each year to a member that has shown dedication to the society and commitment to advancing the Civil Engineering profession. The focus for this year’s award was outreach and inspiring the next generation of Civil Engineers, to which Sarah has been extremely instrumental in planning and spearheading multiple outreach events.

### ASCE Annual Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party is scheduled this year for Friday, December 13 from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM at Bocage Racquet Club. As always, we will offer food, drinks, and live music to our members and their guests. More information will be sent out via email. If you have any questions, please contact: [programs@ascebr.org](mailto:programs@ascebr.org). Please visit us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ASCEBatonRougeBranch/>



## NEW ORLEANS BRANCH

*By Constantine "Dean" F. Nicoladis PE, Branch President*

Elections were held at the June luncheon for the 2019-2020 ASCE New Orleans Branch Board. Members were voted into their respective positions. The board members that were approved by vote at the meeting are as follows:

*Dean Nicoladis, PE*

**President** — Dean Nicoladis, PE

**President-Elect** — Andrew Woodroof, PE

**Vice President** — Stephanie Bayne, PE

**Treasurer** — Kyle Galloway, PE

**Secretary** — Erin Rooney, PE

**Director At-large** — H. Clay Worley, EI

**Director At-large** — Jim Costigan, EI

**Director, Past Pres.** — Rob Delaune, PE



*Seated L to R: Andrew Woodroof, PE; Dean Nicoladis, PE, and Stephanie Bayne, PE. Standing L to R: Rob Delaune, PE; Erin Rooney, PE; and Kyle Galloway, PE (Not pictured: H. Clay Worley, EI and Jim Costigan, EI)*

The Structural Engineers Institute New Orleans Chapter invited Mohammed S. Khan, PhD, PE, Executive Vice President of High Performance Technologies Inc. to present a two hour seminar to 40 members on August 21, 2019 on various testing and inspection techniques for transportation and offshore and marine structures. The New Orleans Branch held a luncheon meeting at The New Orleans Hamburger and Seafood Restaurant on St. Charles Avenue on September 17, 2019. The speaker was Don Conrad, PE with Forterra. The topic was sustainability in drainage design with an emphasis on the use of concrete pipe. On September 18, 2019 a Young Member Forum was held at The Cellar Door in New Orleans. A diverse panel of four engineering leaders talked and gave insight to 20 younger members on the engineering profession.

The annual Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and show was held at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner, Louisiana on September 24 & 25, 2019. Many ASCE New Orleans Branch members participated as moderators and speakers for two days of technical sessions with a broad range of topics from changes in the ACI code and ASCE Wind Design Provisions to project specific sessions on the Sunshine Bridge Emergency Repair, the Mid Barataria Sediment Diversion Project and the Rockefeller Refuge Gulf Shoreline Stabilization. The UNO Student Chapter had a booth at the conference along with numerous other companies.

In May, the Outreach Volunteer Group of the New Orleans Branch set up a booth at STEM Day with the Baby Cakes for the second year in a row.



In September, they were able to attend the Girl Scouts of Louisiana East B.I.G. Event at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA. The group lead two classrooms of Girl Scouts through a soil mechanics challenge. The girls brainstormed ways to pick up a cup with a pencil using sand. After some successes, the volunteers showed the girls how compaction in lifts could in fact lift a cup with only one pencil.



*New Orleans Branch participates with the Girl Scouts of Louisiana East B.I.G. Event*

In October, the group had their final outreach activity for the year at the STEM Fest in the Superdome and the Smoothie King Center. Similar to STEM Day with the Baby Cakes, they were one of many exhibitors speaking to young students about STEM careers. The idea is to get the students interested at a young enough age to pursue careers in STEM. We hope we have inspired at least one young person to become a civil engineer. The ASCE New Orleans Younger Members completed the summer kick ball season finishing fourth. The fall season began September 24, 2019. The New Orleans Branch held a luncheon meeting at The New Orleans Hamburger and Seafood Company Restaurant on St. Charles Avenue on November 19, 2019. The speaker was Kristi Mirambell, PE, President/Owner of K-Belle Consultants, LLC. The topic was Bridging the Gap Between Engineering and Construction.

Please visit us at <http://asceneworleans.org/> or follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/asceno/>





## SHREVEPORT BRANCH

*By Linsey B. Olivier, EI, Branch President*

The Shreveport Branch had a very successful fiscal year while hosting the 2019 ASCE Annual Spring Conference. I would like to acknowledge and thank Past President Marcus Taylor, PE, for his three years of commitment to the Shreveport Branch. As the 2019-2020 President, I am looking forward to serving the Branch and continuing our tradition of engineering excellence.

In September, we had our first fall luncheon featuring Michael Johnson, PE, with Propex Operating Company. Johnson is the Market Development Manager and discussed erosion and flood control.

September also marked the Louisiana Section's Officer Installation and Awards Banquet. Lee Underwood, Jr., PE, was selected for the ASCE Louisiana Section Wall of Fame. As the Shreveport Branch President, I was one of the officers installed on the Louisiana Section Board. The installation was performed by ASCE Region 5 Governor, Ali Mustapha, PE.

Our October meeting marked the first luncheon for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Marcus Taylor, PE, was awarded the ASCE President's Plaque and we introduced our incoming officers. The new officers of the Shreveport Branch Board are:

**President** — Linsey Olivier, EI

**President-Elect/Vice-President** — Ranadeep Ravula, EI

**Treasurer** — Omar Dawud, EI

**Secretary** — Luke Haney, EI

**Past-President** — Marcus Taylor, PE



*Marcus Taylor, PE received the ASCE President's Gavel at the October Luncheon*

Our meeting featured Jeff Bassett and Tim Powell with East Jordan (EJ). They discussed the AASHTO M306 and introduced modern casting design, casting specifications, and manufacturing methods.

Please visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ASCEShreveport/>

Or email us at [asce.Shreveport@gmail.com](mailto:asce.Shreveport@gmail.com) for more information about Shreveport Branch activities coming up.



*From left to right: Omar Dawud, EI, Treasurer; Ranadeep Ravula, EI, Vice-President/President-Elect; Linsey Olivier, EI, President; Luke Haney, EI, Secretary; Marcus Taylor, PE, Past-President*



# ASCE-SEI New Orleans Chapter News

By Mark Castay, PE



The ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter has been very busy hosting and planning seminars, workshops and volunteer efforts. SEI NO hosted the following seminar during the past quarter:

Mohammad S. Khan, PhD, PE, Executive Vice President, High Performance Technologies, Inc., Herndon, VA, presented “Testing and Inspection Techniques for Transportation, Offshore and Marine Structures” on August 21, 2019 at the University of New Orleans. Dr. Khan presented various testing and inspection techniques for the structures in a 2-hour seminar. This presentation reviewed the analysis of various above-water and underwater techniques that can be used for transportation and offshore and marine structures. Above-water techniques included visual inspections, chloride ion analysis, carbonation depth measurement, half-cell potential measurement, corrosion rate measurement, strength testing, and petrographic analysis. Whereas, the underwater techniques included diver-assisted visual inspections, real-time video imaging, ultrasonic imaging, modified versions of some of the above-water techniques, sonic-echo, impulse response, ultrasonic guided waves (UGW), and limited semi-destructive testing. His presentation illustrated that some of the techniques explored could be used on various applications including bridge inspections and other structural evaluations as the technology can be applied in various industries. Dr. Khan emphasized the advantages of various techniques and gave guidance on areas of concern and how to best approach these situations under adverse circumstances. The presentation had 40 attendees and can be downloaded from the ASCE New Orleans Branch website under the SEI NO tab.

SEI NO was busy in arranging various topics for the Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show held on September 25 & 26, 2019. The Annual Herbert J Roussel, Jr. Lecture: “Address Skyview - The Design and Construction Challenges of Linking Two Towers with a Bridge”, had an exceptional turnout and the room was packed! The HJR Lecture was delivered by James Pawlikowski, PE, Associate Director, Skidmore, Owing & Merrill, Chicago, IL. This lecture delved into various challenges in the design of the Skyview Bridge including differential settlement between the towers, wind conditions for design and acceptable tourist enjoyment, various design configurations during preliminary stages, and the inherent challenges with linking two high rise towers with a bridge. The design and construction of the bridge was between two high-rise tower buildings in Dubai, UAE.

Additional Lectures of other structural topics were “Design Build Reconstruction of Murray Morgan Vertical Lift Bridge”, “2018 IBC Significant Structural Changes”, “Design Resources For Steel Bridge Design”, “ACI 318: Changes for 2019”, “Sunshine Bridge



Emergency Repair”, “Changes in Wind Design Provisions of ASCE 7-16”, and “Fatigue Crack Detection during Visual Inspection of Steel Bridge Members”. The detailed program for the 2019 LCECS can be viewed at [www.louisianacivilengineeringconference.org](http://www.louisianacivilengineeringconference.org). Presentations that were made available by presenters were uploaded to the site and available for members to use for future reference.

SEI NO held its elections on October 1, 2019. The Executive Committee elected the following for the 2019-2020 term:

**Executive Committee Chairman**, Kabir

Mohammed, PE (EDG)

**Vice Chair**, Daniel Bobeck, PE (Linfield Hunter Junius)

**Treasure**, James Danner, PE (Denson Engineers)

**Newsletter Editor**, Mark Castay, PE (TRC Companies)

We would like to thank the Past Newsletter Editor Om Dixit, PE, he did a great job as the spokesperson for the ExCom.

During the past year the ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter hosted 4 two hours seminars. Among other activities the chapter sponsored awards at the Regional Science Fair. The Chapter also sponsored New Orleans Regional Math Count Competition hosted by Louisiana Engineering Society every year.

Mike Folse, PhD, PE, SE (Lanier Engineers) presented November 7 & 14, 2019 on “Structural Design Highlights of ACI 318-19”. This seminar will be a 2-part series.



Mohammad S. Khan, PhD, PE, (Left) and Om P Dixit, PE, (Seminar Coordinator) at SEI NO Chapter presentation on August 21, 2019 at University of New Orleans

# Student Chapter News

## LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

*By Sydney Bratton, ASCE Student Chapter Secretary*

The Student Chapter here at Louisiana Tech University has had a great start to the year! We have attended several on campus organization browses that were geared towards bringing in freshman to ASCE. We have successfully had several freshmen join our student chapter, excited to get involved with ASCE. This year, we also held our first ever Civil Engineering Week on Louisiana Tech's campus. Hosting five industry meetings provided students, mainly freshmen, a glimpse of the different possibilities and career options available with a Civil Engineering degree.

Our 2019-2020 Student Chapter Board:

**President** — Katya Opel  
**Vice President** — Jacob Crowell  
**Secretary** — Sydney Bratton  
**Treasurer** — Rose Emery  
**Historian** — Casey Staller  
**Marshal** — Lannie Skelly  
**Conference Chair** — Bennett Lowery  
**Concrete Canoe Captains** — Eddie Landry & Reed Edwards  
**Transportation Leadership Council Chair** — Garrett Anders

We are also excited to see the progress made so far with our concrete canoe team. We have had several meetings to discuss and plan this year's canoe theme, design, and concrete mix. Every week the racing team practices in our old concrete canoes at Lincoln Parish Park in preparation for the races at the Deep South Regional Conference. With practices underway, our chapter is looking forward to a successful appearance at Conference this upcoming year.

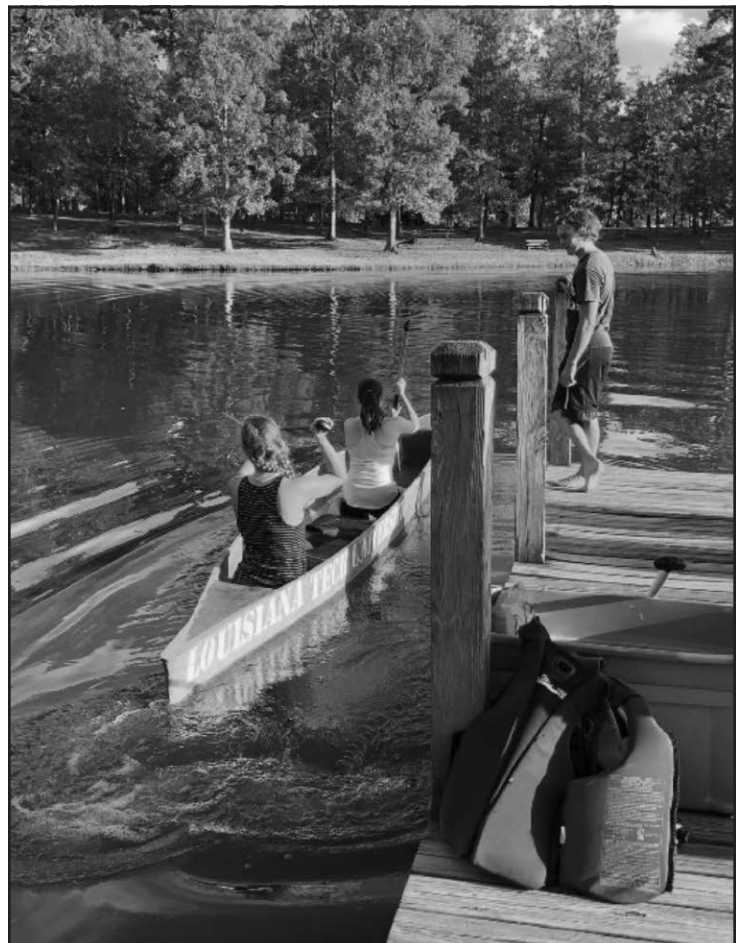
From the organization browses to Civil Engineering Week, and all things concrete canoe, our chapter is very excited about everything that has happened so far this school year. With such a great start to the year, we are looking forward to what we have planned for the rest of the year!



*Our display set up at an organization browse, Time Out for Tech*



*Picture of one of the industry meetings during Civil Engineering Week*



*Concrete Canoe practice at Lincoln Parish Park*



## LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

*By Sydney Sziber, LSU Student Chapter President*

The ASCE Student Chapter at LSU has been working diligently on the Concrete Canoe. This year's theme is **Let the Good Times Reaux**. We have sieved over 300lb of Riverlite Aggregate over the course of 6 weeks, thanks to the help out our large team of 29 members! Our team has completed the design of the hull in SolidWorks, with the total length being 18.75'. We are having it CNC routed by Robotmaid in New Orleans into a 30-40lb high density foam. We are moving into our mix testing phase of the project as well as structural analysis and plan on having these tasks completed by Thanksgiving break.



We were excited to receive a grant of \$5,000 from LTRC, and with such a large team, we are looking to increase our fundraising goal by a couple thousand to help with travel expenses. The entire team is in good standing with the LSU ASCE Chapter and with the National Chapter. Concrete Canoe is made up of 13 females and 16 males, so we are extremely diverse. We have a chemical engineer major, a petroleum graduate who is back for a civil degree, and help from



the construction management department on our mix design. We are also in the process of our graphic design! Our construction captain is working on improving safety and construction efforts with the help of past members, faculty, and private companies. The steel bridge team is also helping out with canoe by welding frames to assist in laying the concrete in the boat for construction day. We are one big happy crazy family who only want each other to succeed! Things are going great with concrete canoe, and we are looking forward to a successful year.

Olivia Kilpatrick: Captain/Project Manager

Josh Cook: Co-Captain/ hull design and structural analysis lead

Rob Spruell: Co-Captain/mix design lead

Meredith Guidry: Co-Captain/ PM assistant/report design

Nick Schexneider: Co-Captain/construction lead/safety lead

## UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

*By Lani Orgeron, Student Chapter President*

Meet our new UL Lafayette ASCE Officers! The last meeting of the spring semester included new officer elections where members of the UL ASCE student chapter nominated and elected their fellow classmates for officer positions. This year's officers consist of:

**President** — Lani Orgeron

**Vice President** — Brooke Smith

**Secretary** — Ivy Thibodeaux

**Treasurer** — Alex Weeks

**Deep South Coordinator** — Nick Scalfano

**Fundraising Chair** — Annie Gutierrez

**Public Relations Chair** — Madison Terro

**LES and E&T Week Coordinator** — Blade Leger

**Sports Coordinator** — Josh Broussard

**Concrete Canoe Co-Captains** — Peyton Bailey and Josh Hoffpauir

**Steel Bridge Captain** — Rhett Hebert

**Sustainable Solutions Captain** — Jeanne Vidrine



*The new officers for the UL ASCE student chapter*

**ASCE**

This semester at UL started off with our first general ASCE meeting on Thursday September 5, 2019 which was a huge success. For this meeting we decided to mix things up by having it in Stokes Hall on UL's campus. This venue allowed for us to serve pizza while allowing the attendees to mingle before the meeting. We had the concrete canoe, steel bridge, and sustainable dog house assembled to show our new members a few of the projects they could get involved in. We were also able to show the movie "Dream Big" and serve popcorn. This meeting was a great way to start off the semester and meet some of the new younger members.

On September 17, 2019 two of our professors from UL, Dr. Habib and Dr. Miller, spoke at an event hosted by Science on the Bayou. The event was held at the Jefferson Street Pub (JSP) where professionals spoke about their research on the Vermillion River, and others talked about their research as well. We are so proud of our professors and all of the work that they do. In September we also participated in the first LES sports event of the year. These sports events bring together all the engineering disciplines and are always a lot of fun. The sport event for the weekend was football and the civil engineering team placed first for the tournament!

Our second general ASCE meeting occurred on Wednesday October 16, 2019. For this meeting we welcomed Anna Doucet, PE and Callie Benton, PE for a presentation. Doucet and Benton both work at Fenstermaker, their presentation included an overview of the many projects they have worked on and their overall experiences. As students it was exciting to attend this presentation because we were able to see how the material we are learning about in class will apply to real projects.

For additional information please feel free to contact us at [ullafayetteasce@gmail.com](mailto:ullafayetteasce@gmail.com) or visit [ulcivil.weebly.com](http://ulcivil.weebly.com). Geauxxx Cajuns!!



# UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS

By Trevor Paitz, Student Chapter President

Students are almost through their busy, fall semester at UNO. ASCE continues to be heavily involved with outreach on campus and in the community. They have volunteered to participate in UNO events like, Get to Know UNO and Alumni Night, and New Orleans area events like, STEMfest, which hosts hundreds of children at the Superdome and the Smoothie King Center. ASCE hosted a paper bridge competition for the students, whom made over 200 bridges, the strongest holding over 20 pounds!

The first general meeting for students had a great turnout, with 77 students in attendance. Andrew Woodruff, PE gave a presentation on government policy and permitting. From this meeting, we were able to recruit 38 members, most of them being underclassmen. Since then, we have had two more general meetings and three companies visit the campus offering internship or job opportunities.

## Student Competitions Update:

Students began the semester with a lab safety orientation with Byron Landry. After the orientation, students cleaned out the construction lab and demolished last year's concrete canoe and transportation box.

This year's concrete canoe hull has been modeled using AutoCad, the model is currently being checked by the using Rhino. Following this analysis, we will be building our mold. The concrete mix design has been selected, and test runs are currently being performed to perfect our mix.

The steel bridge competition is narrowed down to three designs. This year's competition presents a challenge to all schools by requiring an 1'-6" offset of the support columns on each side. The structural modeling process is completed, takeoffs are finished, materials are ordered, and the students are about to begin fabrication.



Figure 2: ASCE Members demolish and dispose of last year's canoe



Figure 1: ASCE members assist students with their paper bridges

## SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

*By Orisamola Richardson, Student Chapter President*

At the beginning of the 2019 Fall Semester, the Southern University of ASCE has elected a new President and committee. Their goals are to be more engaged with the broader ASCE community in the Baton Rouge area, help connect students with job and internship opportunities, and continue to build membership and involvement on campus. So far this semester they have held recruitment drives, held college night events to reach more students, and volunteered for Boo at the Zoo. The chapter is currently making plans to start the design of their concrete canoe and hopes to participate in all Deep South Conference events next year.

### Our 2019-2020 Student Chapter Board:

**President** — Orisamola Richardson

**Vice President** — Sharvette Brock

**Secretary** — Jelani Smith

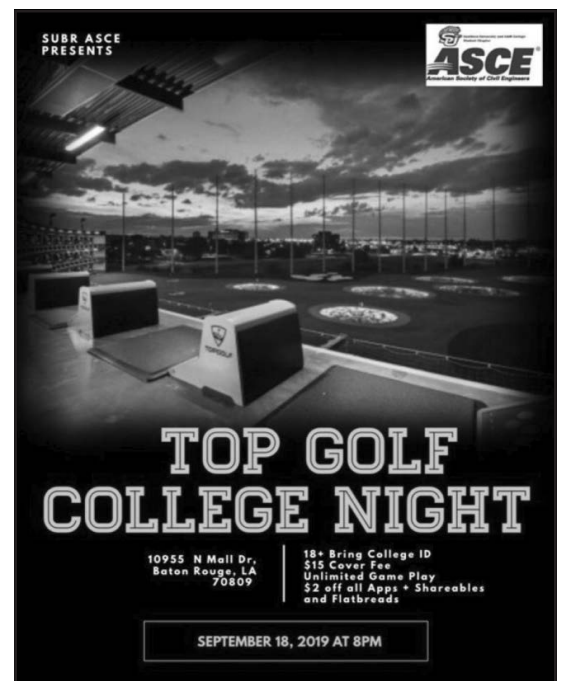
**Treasurer** — Mia McKee

**Membership Chair** — Courtland Thomas

**Fundraising Chair** — Spencer Williams

**Community Service Chair** — D'Asha Wright

**Public Relations Chair** — Ryan West





# — CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

2019-2020

Engineer it - White Hills Elementary, Baton Rouge, LA. Volunteer Opportunity! ..... Monday, November 18, 2019  
Email [pastpresident@ascebr.org](mailto:pastpresident@ascebr.org) for more information

Engineer it - Woodlawn Elementary, Baton Rouge, LA. Volunteer Opportunity! ..... Tuesday, December 10, 2019  
Email [pastpresident@ascebr.org](mailto:pastpresident@ascebr.org) for more information

Baton Rouge Branch Annual Christmas Party, 7-10 PM. .... Friday, December 13, 2019  
at the Bocage Racquet Club, 7600 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70809.  
Save the date, RSVP to come.  
Younger Member After-Party from 10 PM-till.  
Venue TBD. <http://branches.asce.org/baton-rouge/>

ASCE Region 5 Assembly - Philadelphia, PA. .... Thursday, January 30, 2020  
For more information, please see:  
<https://www.asce.org/event/2020/regions-1-2-4-and-5-multi-region-leadership-conference/>

Multi Region Leadership Conference (MRLC), Philadelphia, PA. .... Thursday, January 30, 2020 to Saturday, February 1, 2020  
For more information, please see:  
<https://www.asce.org/event/2020/regions-1-2-4-and-5-multi-region-leadership-conference/>

For more events visit the ASCE Events Calendar: <http://www.lasce.org/calendar.html>

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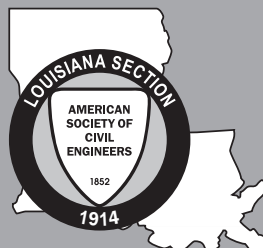
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