

Event Calendar:

- October 16—
Construction
Meeting
- November 20—
Management
Meeting

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October Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 16, 2014

Host: Nebraska Section ASCE, Construction Technical Group
(Doug Kellner, Construction Technical Group Committee Chair)

Location: UNO Community Arena
65th Street and West Center Road
Omaha, NE
<http://www.unomaha.edu/athletics/arena.php>

Tour Guide: Steve Gustwiller, Kiewit Building Group

Program: Site Tour of the UNO Community Arena

The arena will be a facility primarily used for sports teams from the UNO Athletic Department, but will also be available for community members for open skating events; graduations and commencements; and community sports competitions. UNO will commit a minimum 33% of the available ice time for community use. The arena will hold 7,500 for hockey.

Planned community use includes public skating, youth hockey, figure skating, club hockey, adult recreational hockey, hockey tournaments, campus recreation space, varsity practices, varsity games, school skate programs, religious services, commencement ceremonies and concerts.

The addition of a new multi-use facility to the Aksarben Village area of Omaha will open up a wide variety of options for not just area schools, but also for local sports leagues, recreational camps, and community organizations in need of operating space.

All of the land for this project is owned by the University of Nebraska and the University of Nebraska Foundation. HDR has been selected as the lead architect alongside Lempka + Edson from Kansas City. Kiewit Building Group of Peter Kiewit and Sons, Inc. will serve as the general contractor.

The arena is projected to be completed by the fall of 2015.

Please note Safety Equipment is required to participate on the tour. Required items are: hard hat, safety vest, full pants and full toe shoes or boots. Please make arrangements for safety gear prior to arriving on site.

Times: 5:15 pm Meet at Kiewit Construction Office
5:30 pm Presentation and Tour
7:15 pm Appetizers and Pizza Buffet at Dudley's Pizza & Tavern
2110 S 67th Street, Omaha, NE

Menu/Price: Chicken wings and ravioli appetizers with pizza buffet.
All meals include pop or iced tea.
ASCE Nebraska Section Members \$15.00, Guests \$15.00 (including tax and gratuity), \$10.00 without a meal.
Life Members and Students are free, but you must register.

Registration/Deadline: <http://meeting.neasce.com/signup/>
Sign up by 1:00 pm Wednesday, October 15, 2014

From the President

Greetings Nebraska Section!

Activities for NEASCE are off to a great start with the Structural Meeting and Annual Structural Conference that were held on Thursday September 18th and Friday September 19th respectively.

During the structural meeting, Wally Heyen (NDOR's Portland Cement Concrete Engineer) spoke about the new concrete specifications used by the Nebraska Department of Roads. Topics that Wally discussed included Pavement Design, Mix Design, QA/QC procedures, and the challenges that NDOR is facing today. We also had the opportunity to hear from Paul Smith (UNL CE Student) and Dr. Shannon Bartelt-Hunt (Faculty UNL Civil Engineering Department). They provided an update of the projects that The University of Nebraska Student Chapter of Engineers Without Borders is undertaking in Madagascar. The Structural Conference provided a valuable opportunity not only to gain PDH hours but to hear different presentations, including a brief history of the construction of the Panama Canal by Paul Giroux (P.E., M.ASCE), steel and concrete rehabilitation, methods of structural damage characterization, and common causes of failures in exterior facades. It was very encouraging to see such a large attendance at the structural meeting and structural conference. I was also very pleased to see so many students and Younger Members at these events.

In other news, Engineers Without Borders, the University of Nebraska Student Chapter (EWB-NU) is currently working with a local community in Madagascar to install solar power systems at schools and provide access to potable water. NEASCE has supported the efforts of EWB-NU in the last few years by providing donations and also organizing joint events to help raise funds for the project. This is a great project that indirectly impacts over 2,000 individuals. Earlier this year, ASCE launched the Community Engineering Corps (CEC) which has an alliance with Engineers Without Borders USA and the American Water Works Association (AWWA). The objective of this alliance is to provide engineering services, (primarily infrastructure related), to underserved communities in the United States. If you are looking ways to get more involved, EWB-NU and the Community Engineering Corps provide two very worthy opportunities.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate two of the NEASCE officers for being recognized regionally and nationally. John Smith, P.E., M.ASCE (Vice-President) received the Outstanding Younger Member Award from ASCE's Region 7. Joe Flaxbeard, P.E., M.ASCE (President - Elect) was selected as one of the 2014 New Faces of Engineering by the American Council of Engineering Companies. Please help me congratulate John and Joe for their contributions to both the profession and to ASCE.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our Construction Meeting on September 16th. We will be touring the construction site for the new UNO Arena.



**Andres Torres, PE,
M.ASCE**

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Structural Meeting Summary

The Nebraska Section’s Structural Technical Group hosted a joint dinner meeting in association with the Structural Engineers Association of Nebraska (SEAON) and the Annual Structural Conference at McKenna’s Blues Booze and BBQ in Omaha on Thursday evening, September 18th. During the BBQ meal the group listened to the Engineers Without Borders University of Nebraska student chapter presentation regarding their summer work trip to Madagascar. The main presentation for the evening was presented by Wally Heyen with the Nebraska Department of Roads. Wally presented on the “New Nebraska Department of Roads Concrete Specifications.”

Wally’s presentation provided information on the new Nebraska Department of Roads Concrete Specifications and the history leading to the change in specifications. The research on existing portland cement concrete roads and structures revealed causes of concrete deterioration. The reasons for the changes are to increase the concrete durability, allow more economical concrete materials, allow more environmentally friendly materials, increase the expected service life and provide a design that is expected to perform for the design service life. The EPA regulations are also having an impact on the sources of class F fly ash. More information regarding research performed by the Nebraska Department of Roads can be found at www.transportation.nebraska.gov/mat-n-tests/.

The list below can be considered official documentation of attendance at the September 18, 2014 meeting worth one (1) PDH credit.

Daren Konda	Jeremy Steenhoek	Michael Sklenar	John Hill
Brad Blakeman	Loras Klostermann	Matthew Nienaber	Gopal Allam
Wally Heyen	Aaron Buettner	Marie Stamm	Chris Sinden
Brandon Gardels	Joshua Frank	Matthew Kline	Tyler Klusaw
Kip Squire	Paul Smith	Andres Torres	John Smith
Ben Lorenzen	Zachary Mahon	Ed Prost	Laura Rathe
Chris Podany	Rich Kotan	Shannon Bartelt-Hunt	Eddie Geisel
Mike Baumert	Scott Gilliland	Gary Krause	
Mark Reznicek	Sean Mascia		



Wally Heyen, Nebraska Department of Roads Materials and Research

Structural Conference Summary

The 34th Annual Structural Conference was held on Friday, September 19th. The full day conference was held at the Scott Conference Center in Omaha, NE. The conference was well attended again this year with over 240 participants. Conference notes were provided as part of the \$175 registration fee (\$150 for NEASCE and SEAON members, \$50 for full-time students).

The Nebraska Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (NEASCE), the Structural Engineers Association of Nebraska (SEAON), the University of Nebraska, and the Peter Kiewit Institute are joint sponsors of the Conference.

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ASCE Region 7 Outstanding Younger Member Award

At the Structural Meeting on September 18th, John Smith (Vice President – NEASCE) was presented the ASCE Region 7's Outstanding Younger Member Award. This is a well-deserved recognition and acknowledges all the contributions that John has done to ASCE and the profession. John's involvement with ASCE started as a student with the UNL ASCE Student Chapter. With NEASCE, John has held different roles including Transportation Technical Committee Chair, Younger Member Group Co-Chair, and Vice-President. He was also recognized in the 2013 ASCE DiscoverE Volunteer Program due to his contributions to the community and volunteer efforts on behalf of ASCE.

We're glad to have John as a board member for the Nebraska Section and we will greatly benefit from his leadership in years to come.



John Smith, PE, M.ASCE
Outstanding Younger Member Award Recipient

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Future City Competition

What is Future City?

Future City is a national competition where teams of middle school students work with their teacher and mentor to imagine, design, and build cities of the future. This is a very creative competition where the students decide where to place their city and to identify and come up with solutions to problems that every city has to deal with. This includes issues from transportation, health, energy source, industry, residential housing, and even drainage. Some examples from previous competitions are cities located in the ocean, moon, and rainforests. In years past one team decided that their city was going to be powered by the residents dancing. They thought through and developed ways to implement their concepts and ideas. Needless to say, there are a ton of examples that I could go on and describe, I'd be happy to discuss other examples with you if you're interested.

The competition begins at the beginning of the school year (last day to sign up is in October) and ends in the competition in January. The winning team from the region each year gets a free trip to compete at the National Competition in Washington D.C.. Four years ago the team we sent ended up meeting the president and three years ago our team won several awards at the competition (1st Place – Best Sustainable Buildings of the Future Award & 3rd Place – People's Choice Award for Best Futuristic City). I will also mention that the team that won the national awards was the first year that their school competed.

Competition involves:

- Designing a virtual city with SimCity
- Research and write an essay on this year's topic: "Tomorrow's Transit: Design a way to move people in and around your city"
- Build a physical model of their city using recycled materials
- Present their city before a panel of judges at the competition



Future City National Competition

Volunteers

Mentors

A major part of the success of the competition has been the mentorship of the teams by professionals in the industry (this doesn't have to be just engineers/architects). The mentor provides guidance and helps answer questions that come up while the students work on their projects. Most people that I have recruited to be mentors were worried that they didn't know enough or were worried about needing to discuss items that they weren't comfortable with. They all came back saying that they spent a fraction of the time that they thought it would take and that they were able to provide more guidance than they thought they could. Most tasks involve reviewing reports, discussing the concept of scale for the model, and answering other simple questions.

I feel strongly that the teams get a better experience with a mentor. The last thing we want is to have a team put their best effort into something and show up at the competition and be disappointed even before they begin. My experience has shown that the teams with a mentor had a better experience and want to continue the program the following year.

Again, most people are worried about the amount of time it will take. From my experience this usually depends on the teacher. I know of one or two teachers that work closely with their mentor and would be about 1 hour at the school once a week for about a month or so (those teachers already have repeat mentors). Most teachers will have the mentor meet the class 2 to 3 times to discuss items with the team. It totally depends on the teacher and is usually less time than anticipated.

Judges

The day of the competition I will need volunteers to help judge the competition. This year it is on a Friday. We're competing on a school day in order to make it easier on the schools to attend and to help recruit more schools to the competition. I also need judges to help grade the early submittals prior to the competition. This year we're going to implement a bracket system, which means I need double the judges to help get the competition completed in an afternoon. This is a very rewarding position and it typically is a shorter time commitment than being a mentor.

(continued on Page 6)



Future City National Competition

Future City Competition (continued from page 5)

I would strongly urge anyone interested in this to give me a call to discuss. Conversation is a lot better and meaningful than an email. There is also a website for you to visit to learn more about the program (www.futurecity.org). This is not just an Omaha area competition, we had teams from Council Bluffs, IA, Fremont, NE, Grand Island, NE, Sioux City, IA, and Underwood, IA. So please consider talking to your schools and teachers about getting this included in their schools as either an after school teams or incorporate it into their lesson plans. I have contacts at Educational Service Unit #3 (ESU#3) that can work with the teachers on how to do so. He also helps coordinate the competition and is very involved. The winning team receives a free trip to Washington, DC to compete in the national competition. Last year a first time school competed and won the trip.

-David Nielsen, PE, M.ASCE



Future City National Competition



Future City National Competition



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Presidents and Governors Forum

- Joe Flaxbeard, PE, M.ASCE

The 2014 Presidents and Governors Forum (PGF) was held in Reston, Virginia on September 21st and 22nd. ASCE Nebraska Section was represented at the forum by Joe Flaxbeard (President- Elect). The Younger Member Leadership Symposium (YMLS) was held in conjunction with the PGF. Andres Torres (President) represented the Nebraska Section at the YMLS as a presenter.

Representatives from several sections and branches throughout the Society attended the two day PGF hosted at the ASCE Headquarters building. The agenda included a wide range of topics meant to assist incoming presidents in how to operate during their term. Attendees were introduced to the numerous resources provided by the Society’s committees and governors, and leadership and management skills necessary to effectively run Section and Branch operations. Attendees were also able to tour the ASCE Headquarters and meet many of the staff.

Throughout the forum, several breakout sessions and small group discussions took place that allowed attendees to share ideas and best practices with members from across the Society. Breakout and discussion topics included membership development, student outreach, website development, government relations, and several others.

The Presidents and Governors Forum was an excellent opportunity to develop skills and learn about resources that will improve the way the Nebraska Section operates.



Courtesy of Jackie Simon

2014 Presidents and Governors Forum Attendees

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The Nebraska Civil Engineer

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Fro underwriting information, contact Greg Seib,
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Deadline for articles to be published in the November newsletter
will be November 3rd. Email articles to Greg Seib at
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