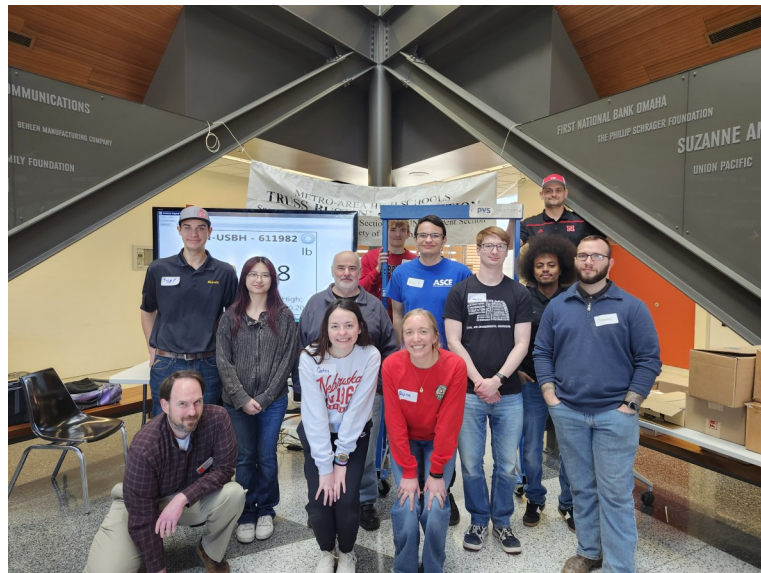


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## Upcoming Events

- March Environmental Section Meeting
  - Date: March 25th, 2026 @ 12 PM
  - Location: Beacon Hills in Omaha
  - Registration: *to be posted on the website and sent via email*
- Omaha Children's Museum Outreach Event
  - March 28th, 2026 @ TBD
  - Bring your kids and enjoy hands-on activities like building gumdrop domes and designing trusses.
- 2026 Mid-America Student Symposium
  - April 9th - 11th, 2026
  - Location: Southern Illinois University Carbondale & Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
  - [Home - Mid-America](#)
- Transportation Conference
  - May 29th, 2026 at the Scott Conference Center



See page 4 for a full recap of the Truss Busting Student Competition.



Pavel Karamshin, E.I.  
A.M.ASCE

## From the President

Hello Nebraska Section Members,

Here comes spring—at least on the calendar. Let’s hope the snow is behind us as we head into a busy but exciting March, packed with great events and opportunities to connect across our section.

While students are preparing for spring break, both the UNO and UNL student chapters have been hard at work getting ready for upcoming competitions. Both teams have poured their canoes and are continuing work on designs and presentations. It’s always impressive to see the level of commitment and teamwork our students bring to these efforts, and we’re proud to support them.

Last month’s Geo-Omaha Conference was a tremendous success, with over 200 attendees in person and an additional 50+ participants joining virtually. Thank you to everyone who helped organize, present, and attend—this strong turnout highlights the continued engagement within our geotechnical community.

We also hosted the annual Truss Bustin’ Competition at PKI in Omaha, where several high school teams competed. Out of nearly 100 trusses tested, the winning structure held an impressive 74 pounds. Congratulations to all participants, and thank you to those who helped make this event possible.

Looking ahead, we will hold an Environmental Meeting on March 25th during the lunch hour at Beacon Hills in Omaha. Andy Szatko from the City of Omaha will present a Stormwater Program Update, and we will also recognize the top three Truss Bustin’ teams during this meeting.

Another exciting opportunity this month is our ASCE outreach event at the Omaha Children’s Museum on March 28th. Bring your kids and enjoy hands-on activities like building gumdrop domes and designing trusses while learning more about civil engineering.

We’re also excited to announce the upcoming launch of an ASCE Nebraska Section merchandise page, featuring custom polos and quarter-zips for our members. More details will be shared soon.

As always, if you’re interested in getting more involved or would like to contribute to the section, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the board. Lastly, be on the lookout for a Save-the-Date announcement for the Transportation Conference, scheduled for May 29th at the Scott Conference Center. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming events as we head into spring.

Much Appreciated,  
Pavel Karamshin  
President, ASCE Nebraska Section

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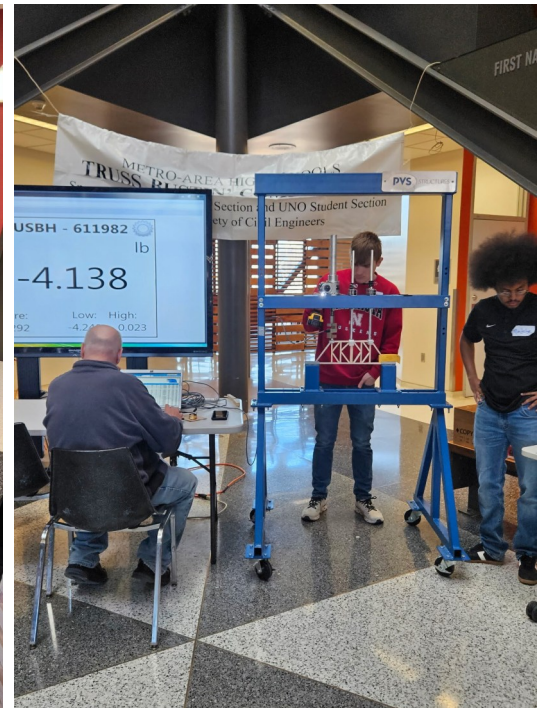
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## Truss Busting Competition

On Saturday, February 28th, the Truss Bustin' E-Week event took place at the UNO Peter Kiewit Institute. We had excellent weather and one sink hole outside. The event started at 9 AM with set-up, the first truss broke at 10 AM with a pizza lunch at 12 PM. Civil Engineering students from UNO and UNL were there volunteering by giving tours of the engineering facilities and leading different outreach activities. We had 85 trusses from three schools, including 3 teacher trusses and one exhibition truss made of pine instead of balsa, holding 533 lbs. One truss held 437 lbs. but it was really heavy. Light weight wins. The winning truss held over 74 pounds! Free standing slender towers were also constructed by the students with 15 sheets of newspaper. The winner was selected based on total height. UNO also provided tours and tested the compressive strength of a concrete cylinder for the tour groups.

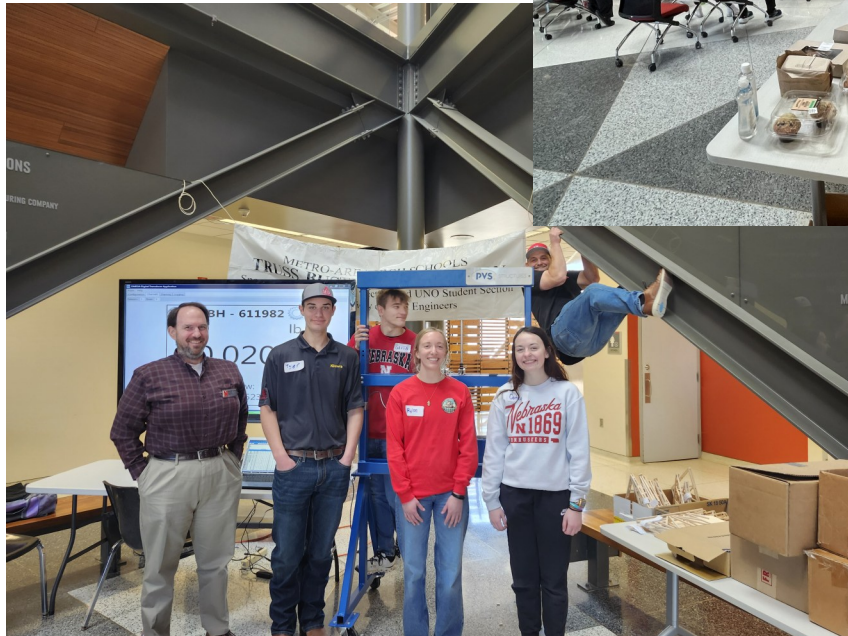
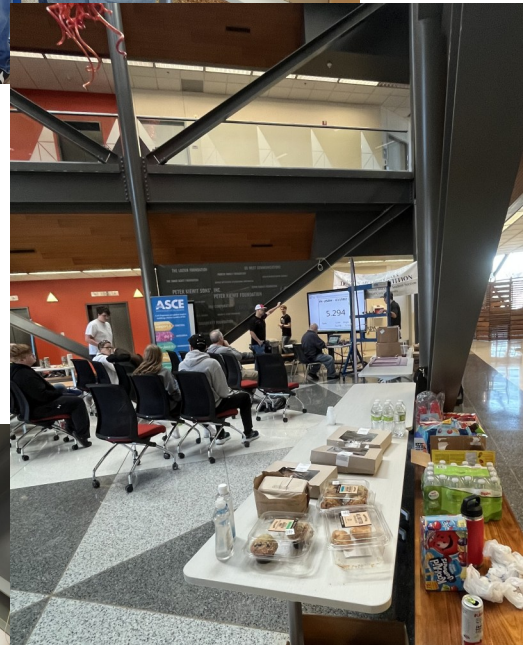
NEASCE members Abdiraham Madobe, Mike Sklenar, Daren Konda, Tregan Albers, and Garrett Martindale attended the event to volunteer.



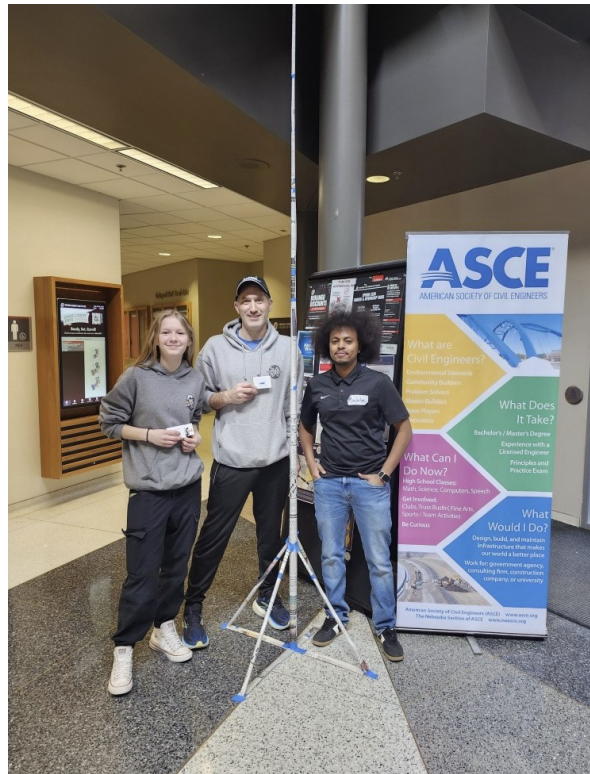
## Truss Busting Competition



Thank you to our volunteers and student participants this year!



## Truss Busting Competition



The winners for the slender tower contest were the following:

Lia Baber and Brad Baber

Total Height 12'-3"

Photo 1. Lia Baber and Brad Baber with First Place award presented by Abdiraham Madobe



Second Place: Joslyn Kristl and Jim Kristl

Total Height 11'-0"

Photo 2. Joslyn Kristl with Second Place award presented by Abdiraham Madobe

Third Place Colin King, Nathaniel King and Peyton Viddle

Total Height 10'-1"

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## Follow our social media accounts!

Did you know NE ASCE is on social media?

Follow our accounts today to stay in the know about upcoming events and exciting details and photos from past events!

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## February Geotechnical Section Meeting and Geo-Omaha Conference

On February 12th, 2026, the Nebraska ASCE Geotechnical committee hosted the February Section Meeting at the Scott Conference Center at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. The meeting topic focused on Emerging Technologies for Levee Inspection and was presented by Dr. Navid Jafari (Texas A&M).

A Geotechnical Short Course was also held on February 12th at the Scott Conference Center. The topic was Cone Penetration Testing (CPT) for Geotechnical Applications and was presented by Dr. Peter Robertson (PK Robertson, Inc), Ms. Kelly Cabal (ConeTec), and Mr. Alex Potter-Weight (Menard USA).

On February 13th, the Geo-Omaha Conference was hosted at the Scott Conference Center at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. The conference included an ethics presentation on Ethical Strategies for an Irrational World presented by Mr. Aaron Mann (Terracon). Other presentation topics included Deep Foundation Design-Construction Continuum and Quantifying Engineering Properties for Levee Design using CPT.



Vendor exhibit hall at the Geo Omaha Conference.

## February Geotechnical Section Meeting and Geo-Omaha Conference

Billy Camp (Kiewit)  
presenting on deep  
foundation design.



Conference pre-  
senter and plan-  
ning committee.

Student poster  
exhibit hall.



## Calling all past NE ASCE Presidents!

Have you served as a president for the NE ASCE section?

If so, we are looking to gather your insight and expertise from your time serving as president. Your input will greatly contribute to our efforts to continuously seek areas of improvement for NE ASCE .

Please reach out to our current NE ASCE president for more information!

Pavel Karamshin - [pkaramshin@olsson.com](mailto:pkaramshin@olsson.com)



## Omaha and Lincoln University Student Chapters

The University of Nebraska at Lincoln and Omaha have active ASCE student chapters. Stay up to date with event updates and exciting news by following their social media accounts. Just last year, UNL and UNO hosted the ASCE Region 7 Student Symposium.

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