President’s Message  by Kacey Paul, P.E., CFM

Can you smell the cinnamon and pumpkin yet?! Fall is almost here, and this Texas girl is looking forward to football season and double-digit temperatures.

September is our first month back after our summer break and our transition to our new board. This is a great time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year as we transition and prepare for the year to come. In the past year, the ASCE Austin Branch has worked diligently to bring you relevant content, grow our community outreach program, improve our scholarship program, increase our social media presence, and sponsor social events, to name a few things.

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the hard work from our board members, committee chairs, and committee members. I am so proud of all that this branch has been able to accomplish and overwhelmed by the hard work and dedication of these individuals.

The September luncheon is special meeting. Not only will we be swearing in our new board members, but Dr. Jean-Louis Briaud will be presenting on his research. Dr. Briaud is a Distinguished Professor at Texas A&M and the President-Elect for ASCE National.

September is also CECON month!! On September 18-20, engineers from across the state will congregate in San Marcos for collaboration, training, networking, hearing about the latest projects and technologies, and building relationships. If you haven’t had a chance to register yet, you can do so by visiting https://www.texasce.org/our-programs/cecon/.

Lastly, now is a great time to get involved! We are currently looking for committee chairs and members. If you’ve been wanting to contribute in any way to help make our branch the success that it is, please contact me (830-798-6265, pastpresident@austinasce.org) or another officer or committee member. Thank you for everything you do to support ASCE!

Please follow up on Facebook, Linked In and Instagram for event recaps, upcoming events, relevant news, and updates.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your ASCE Austin Branch President over this past year and for everything you do to support ASCE. It has been an honor and I look forward to helping the incoming Board and Committee members pursue the goals for the coming year!

Kacey
Speaker Bio

Dr. Jean-Louis Briaud
Distinguished Professor
Texas A&M University
ASCE President Elect-elect

Professor Jean-Louis Briaud is a Distinguished Professor and Holder of the Spencer J. Buchanan Chair in the Zachry Department of Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University, a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and a Professional Engineer. He was elected to be President of ASCE in 2020. He received his Bachelor degree in France in 1972 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Ottawa in Canada in 1979. His expertise is in foundation engineering and more generally geotechnical engineering. He has served as President of the Association of Geotechnical Engineering Professors, President of the Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers, President of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, and President of the Federation of International Geoengineering Societies. Among other awards, he has received the ASCE Ralph Peck Award from the USA, the CGS Geoffrey Meyerhof Foundation Engineering Award from Canada, the Honorable Aitalyev Medal from Kazakhstan, and is a member of the National Academy of Natural Sciences in Russia. Over the last 30 years, Dr. Briaud has conducted about 10 million dollars of research most of which was on foundations and retaining walls. He has supervised 50 PhD students and 90 Master students. He is the author of a book entitled Geotechnical Engineering and one entitled The Pressuremeter; he has published about 300 articles and reports. He enjoys tennis, soccer, and rugby, and plays jazz piano at the amateur level.

September Branch Meeting by Bradley L. East, M.S., P.E.

ASCE Austin Branch is proud to host Dr. Jean-Louis Briaud, ASCE's 2020 president-elect, as this month's luncheon speaker.

Date: 9/10/2019 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Location: Phillips Event Center, 8140 Exchange Drive, Austin, TX, 78754
Topic: Geotechnical Risk -- What is acceptable?

Register now for this event where we will also install the incoming Board Members for 2019-2020. This will be a prime networking opportunity with outgoing and incoming ASCE leadership in attendance.

September Branch Meeting Sponsor by Colton Fisher P.E.

Pape-Dawson Engineers

Pape-Dawson Engineers in San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Fort Worth, and Dallas are qualified to handle civil engineering, transportation, water resources, environmental, and surveying projects. The powerful combination of several decades of experience, a broad range of service capabilities and key relationships within the community are what makes us a valuable contributor to our clients’ teams.

Our mission is to be the most respected engineering firm in our geographic and technical areas of practice. Pape-Dawson will continue to emphasize character and moral integrity; develop solutions in the best interest of the client and public; constantly re-evaluate and sharpen our engineering skills; provide an environment that encourages employee development and satisfaction; actively participate in professional, religious, and civic associations; nurture trusting relationships; and offer services only in our area of technical capability. These principals, in turn, create a mutually beneficial relationship with our clients, our employees, and our community.

2019 Texas Section Awards by Tyler Dube, P.E.

Congratulations to outgoing ASCE Austin Branch President Kacey Paul, P.E., CFM for being awarded one of this year’s ASCE Texas Section Professional Service Awards!

Additionally, hats off to David K. Harkins PhD, PE for being awarded the Texas Section’s Professional Service to Students Award.

Finally, congratulations to Martha F. Juch PE for receiving the Texas Section’s Government Civil Engineer Award.

See below for a full listing of awards to be presented at the 2019 CECON AWARD OF HONOR

Carol E. Haddock PE (Houston Branch)
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEI September Meeting
Date: 9/4/2019
Location: JJ Pickle Research Center

September Branch Meeting
Date: 9/10/2019
Location: Phillips Event Center

CECON 2019
Date: 9/18/2019 – 9/20/2019
Location: Embassy Suites San Marcos

October Branch Meeting
Date: 10/15/2019
Location: Phillips Event Center

Science Thursday
Date: 10/17/2019
Location: Phillips Event Center

Engineering Blitz
Date: November 2019 (TBD)
Location: Kealing Middle School

Mentoring Opportunity with UT Civil Engineering Seniors Fall 2019
by Paul Hahn, P.E.

The Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering is recruiting volunteers from the ASCE Austin Branch to serve as mentors for seniors in the civil engineering program. Serving as a mentor is

2019 Texas Section Awards Cont’d...

TEXAS OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Wichita Falls Direct Potable Reuse & Indirect Potable Reuse Project
- City of Wichita Falls: Daniel K. Nix, Public Utilities Operation Manager, and Russell J. Schreiber PE, Director of Public Works
- Biggs & Mathews, Inc.: Kerry D. Maroney PE
- CDM Smith: Chad D. Bartruff PE
- Corlett, Probst & Boyd, LLP: T. Dean Hinton PE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AWARD
- Mark K. Boyd PhD, PE (Dallas Branch)
- Kacey C. Paul PE (Austin Branch)
- Anthony D. Luce PE (Dallas Branch)

SERVICE TO PEOPLE AWARD
- Griselda Gonzales PE (Houston Branch)
- Jearl P. Morris PE (Fort Worth Branch)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO STUDENTS AWARD
- David K. Harkins PhD, PE (Austin Branch)
- Jennifer L. Smith PE (Dallas Branch)

GOVERNMENT CIVIL ENGINEER AWARD
Martha F. Juch PE (Austin Branch)

JOHN A FOCHT, JR CITIZEN ENGINEER AWARD
Julie A. Jones PE (Dallas Branch)

HISTORY & HERITAGE AWARD
ASCE Dallas Branch

PRESIDENT’S SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
Elizabeth Greenwood, former ASCE Texas Section Operations Manager

SEI Update by Eric L. Sammarco, PhD, PE

Greetings from the SEI Austin Chapter! Although temperatures are just now hitting triple digits, summer is quickly coming to an end. Even if you don’t have household members going back to school to learn or work, this seasonal change has big impacts on most of us. Less congested traffic conditions end abruptly. Many fiscal years end. And our summer break from Professional Meetings comes to an end as well. On September 4th we will resume our series of every-other-month meetings with a fascinating focus on concrete that engineering students and professionals will not want to miss.

Whether you consider the building materials the ancient Egyptians used on the pyramids 5,000 years ago, the materials the Romans used 2,300 years ago, or the material called Portland Cement developed in 1824 as the first use of concrete, Structural Engineers have used it for our most important structures for a very long time. Still, there are aspects of it that are not
Mentoring Cont’d...

an excellent opportunity to assist with public service projects in our community, identify potential new hires for your company, get your company name out in the local community, and earn three professional development hours (PDHs) for licensure.

Students are organized into teams to work on real-world projects for real-world clients. If possible, two mentors will be assigned to each team to support students in developing a sound technical approach, preparing an oral presentation for a stakeholder meeting, and delivering a brief written report to their client. While mentors are certainly asked to provide technical advice as the project develops, a very important component of this course is to expose students to the non-technical aspects of our work as we collaborate with team members, clients, and stakeholder communities.

Working with the mentors has been an extremely valuable experience for our students, and several are currently employed by their former mentors. Mentors of all experience levels and backgrounds are welcome!

An orientation session will be held on campus the first week in September (location and date TBD). Mentors will learn about their responsibilities and can select the project they would like to contribute to at the orientation session. Mentors will be asked to attend three classes during the semester (typically held on campus from 3:00-5:00 pm on Wednesdays, specific dates TBD).

If you are interested in serving as a mentor, or would like to learn more, please contact Paul Hahn (paul.hahn@aguirre-fields.com).

SEI Cont’d...

universally understood. At our September Professional Meeting, Stephanie Tsen, President of Tsen Engineering, will lead us through an exploration of one of those little understood aspects of concrete: Honeycombing. Seating is limited, so please RSVP and register at our website (https://www.austinasce.org/sei/) as soon as possible. Meeting details are provided below:

September Professional Meeting Details:
Topic: Honeycombing: Structural or Cosmetic?
Presenter: Stephanie Tsen, P.E.; President of Tsen Engineering
Location: Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin’s J. J. Pickle Research Center (Bldg. FS1 on Pickle Research Campus). A map of the Pickle Research Campus can be found at http://www.utexas.edu/maps/prc/.
Date: Wednesday, September 4th, 2019
Time: 11:30am to 1:00pm

Summary: Stephanie Tsen is co-founder and president of Tsen Engineering. Throughout her 20-year career as a Structural Engineer, she has worked with the City of Austin, Austin ISD, the State of Texas, Austin Community College and others to help with their continued growth and expansion. Her presentation will explore the occurrence of honeycombing in structural concrete members and how to determine if it is a structural defect or a cosmetic one. She will discuss the mysterious world of concrete, causes of honeycombing, proper ways to address it, and the appropriateness of common repairs. Included references will be made to the ACI/ICRI Concrete Repair Manual.

As always, you can stay plugged into the SEI Austin Chapter via our website (https://www.austinasce.org/sei/), where you’ll find the latest and greatest on upcoming events and chapter leadership. We always welcome your thoughts on future technical and other special events. If there’s something you’d like to do then we’d like to hear about it. Please drop us a line at sei@austinasce.org.

Government Affairs Committee Update
by Augustine Verrengia, P.E.

The Austin ASCE Government Affairs Committee (GAC) has had an active and engaging role in Texas this past year engaging in public policy recommendations for not only our state government but also local governments. The GAC began its work this past year with a successful 2019 ASCE Texas Legislative Drive-In event where gathered at the State Capital with ASCE members from around the state, met with our legislators, provided feedback on bills, and responded to various decisions through letters and testimony.

Policy issues, public outreach, and government relation activities which GAC members participated in this past year included the following:

- Authoring a letter to members of the Texas Sunset Commission regarding the staff report recommendations on the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG) licensure.
- ASCE members were interviewed and quoted for various news affiliations:
Government Affairs Cont’d...

- The GAC authored an [Op-Ed in the Austin American-Statesman](https://www.austinamericanstatesman.com) in response to Governor Abbott’s State of the State Address.
- GAC Member Travis Attanasio was quoted in the [Austin American-Statesman](https://www.austinamericanstatesman.com) on the Kingsland bridge collapse in October 2018.
- GAC Member Brandon Klenzendorf was interviewed in May 2019 on [CBS Austin](https://www.cbsaustin.com) following the Lake Dunlap dam failure.

- Engaging with policy makers of the 86th legislative session by discussing, reviewing, commenting and providing written and oral testimony on several bills presented by legislators. The bills for which the GAC advocated on behalf included:
  - SB 7 by Senator Creighton related to funding of flood planning and infrastructure which was signed into law by Governor Abbott.
  - SB 8 by Senator Perry related to flood planning which was signed into law by Governor Abbott.
  - HB 137 by Representative Hinojosa related to dam hazard classification reports which was signed into law by Governor Abbott.
  - HB 1059 by Representative Lucio III related to stormwater infrastructure reporting which passed the legislature and was vetoed by Governor Abbott.
  - HB 1010 by Representative Paul related to flood planning.
  - HB 478 by Representative Phelan related to funding of flood planning and infrastructure.
  - SB 396 by Senator Perry related to flood planning.
  - Meeting with the clerk of the Senate Water and Rural Affairs Committee.
  - Meeting with the clerk of the House Natural Resources Committee.
  - Letter update on North Texas flood risk mitigation for Senator Fallon.

The GAC for both the ASCE Austin Branch and ASCE Texas Section has continued plans for growth, advocacy, and involvement in Texas over the next year and is seeking additional volunteers to assist in these activities. These goals center around planning for the release of the next Texas Infrastructure Report Card. If you would like to contribute to this goal, or any of the government affairs activities, please reach out to the incoming GAC Chair, Augustine Verrengia, at [GovernmentAffairs@TexASCE.org](mailto:GovernmentAffairs@TexASCE.org).
Government Affairs Cont’d...

Over 50 ASCE members met with their legislators at the 2019 ASCE Texas Section Legislative Drive-In to advocate for infrastructure and engineering policy issues.

Younger Member Forum News by Katherine Smith, EIT

YMF Announcements & Updates

ASCE Younger Member Forum (YMF) welcomes another great year! Meet the Board for 2019-2020, we are excited to serve the Austin YMF community. Keep an eye out for upcoming events this fall. We look forward to meeting you! Until then we wish all of you a relaxing and safe Labor Day weekend! If you are interested in learning more about ASCE YMF Austin, please contact our president Marita Moya at marita.moya@halff.com

Texas Section Update by Genest Landry, P.E., PMP

Time to register for ASCE Texas CECON!

Date: 9/18/2019 - 9/20/2019
Location: Embassy Suites San Marcos
Texas Section Cont’d…

Program Overview
Wondering what to expect from the 2019 CECON program? Check out the below program highlights!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019
Opening Ceremony
Keynote: "Embracing Change"
ASCE President Robin Kemper PE, LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE
Luncheon
Keynote: "24 Hours in the President’s Bunker: Crisis, Leadership, & Decision Making on 9/11/2001"
Robert J. Darling, Lt. Col. USMC (Ret.)
Afternoon
Technical Sessions & Poster Presentations
Evening Social
Family-friendly Barbecue Social hosted by Texas Concrete Pipe Association (TCPA)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
Ethics Breakfast
Presentation: Steven K. Starrett PhD, PE, D.WRE, F.ASCE, F.EWRI (Le Tourneau University) & Carlos Bertha PhD (United States Air Force Academy)
Morning
Technical Sessions & Lightning Round Presentations
Luncheon
Keynote: Historical Bastrop State Park: Recovery & Future Preparedness
Afternoon
Technical Sessions
Evening Social
CECON Gala & ASCE Texas Section Awards Banquet
Theme: Casino Night

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019
Breakfast
Networking
Morning
Technical Sessions
ASCE Texas Section Business Meeting Luncheon

Younger Member Forum Cont’d…

Sammy’s House Volunteer Work Day
YMF members Leanne Cantalupo, Bob Demyan, and Claire LeGrow volunteered at Sammy’s House this past June. The group built a tri-fold to hold student’s art from 2 x 4’s and wire. Sammy’s House is a nonprofit that provides services for families of children with special needs. YMF has donated the proceeds of the Golf Tournament to Sammy’s House for the past three years.

YPT Austin and ASCE YMF Annual Party Barge!
YPT and ASCE YMF hosted the 3rd Annual Party Barge on July 13th this summer! The barge took the group out on Lake Travis where they enjoyed the sunshine. Member mingled while swimming, eating, and enjoying beverages.
Texas Section Cont’d...

Keynote: Adversity & Leadership: It’s Not About You!
Clarence Wittwer, Director of Public Works, City of Pearland

Afternoon
Technical Tour: Amazon’s San Marcos Distribution Facility

Register Online
Please submit proposals or questions to vptech@texasce.org

Science Thursdays at Bob Bullock Museum
by Linda Barlow, PE

On Science Thursdays, students can drop in and explore the Bullock Museum, see demonstrations, and participate in hands-on activities with STEM experts from Central Texas Discover Engineering, which has ASCE representation. Science Thursdays are FREE for all groups who have pre-registered for a Bullock Museum field trip. Every Science Thursday is different, but all activities connect to content in the exhibits and films at the Museum.

The dates for Science Thursdays for the 2019-2020 school year have been tentatively set, pending some school calendars. Right now they are October 17, November 21, December 19, January 16, February 20, March 12, April 16, and May 21. ASCE will take the lead for volunteers on one or two of these months, but all ASCE members are invited to volunteer on any of these dates. See Linda Barlow for more information.

Do Gooder Games

ASCE board members Marita Moya, David Contreras, Katherine Smith and Arturo Terrazas participated in the Do Gooder Games this past month. The event was hosted by the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network at the Google Fiber Space downtown. The winner of the challenge received prize money that they could donate to the organization of their choice. The theme this year was sugar! YMF’s team - Sweet Smarts competed in fast paced challenges and trivia questions. Although Sweet Smarts did not win, they had a lot of fun!

Upcoming Event 2019 ASCE Younger Member Texas Section Camping Trip

Join us for the 4th Annual Texas Section Younger Member Camping Trip! This year the camping trip will take place October 18 – 20th at Pace Bend Park near Lake Travis in Spicewood, Texas! Register here

Thank you to everyone who made last year a success. Be sure to be on the lookout for this year’s events! Follow us on social media to interact with other young engineers, be kept up to date on current civil engineering issues and be notified of future YMF events. Find us on Facebook