

## Virginia Avenue Tunnel Phase I Completion

Picture an expanded tunnel, originally built in 1872, running right through southeast Washington, DC carrying double-stack trains. With a 42-month schedule, 20,000 truckloads of soil excavated and 10,000 hours of noise and vibration monitoring completed, the first double-stack train passed through Phase I of the completed tunnel project just before Christmas. The expanded tunnel will allow trains to move freight between key ports, manufacturing centers, and customer markets. It is not just track and tie construction but extensive geotechnical, pile driving and other structural work as well as street deck removal and replacement were required.

### About the Speaker: Charles E. Gullakson, PE

Charles (Chuck) Gullakson is the Assistant Vice-President – National Gateway for CSX Transportation, and the chief engineer leading a cross-functional project team for the Virginia Avenue Tunnel Reconstruction Project in Washington, DC.

Chuck joined Chessie System Railroads in 1983 as a draftsman shortly after graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has served in a number of engineering positions for Chessie and CSX during his 34-year career in the railroad industry, rising to his current role as the Assistant Vice-President – National Gateway.



While working full-time, Chuck returned to further his education earning an MBA through the University of Florida's executive program in 2004, and then again earning a Master of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois, graduating in December, 2016. Chuck is a registered professional engineer in the State of Illinois.

Please join us on **Tuesday, February 21**, at the Hilton Arlington, 950 North Stafford Street, Arlington, VA, on the second floor in the Gallery Ballrooms. Parking is available at the hotel (\$10), at the Ballston Mall garage (\$1 after 6 pm), and on the street (free after 6 pm). The Hilton is on the same block as the Ballston Station on Metro's orange and silver lines. Registration and networking will be from 6–6:45 pm, followed by dinner. The program will end by 8:30 pm. The cost is \$45 for those preregistering, \$10 for students, and \$55 for walk-ins, as space allows. One Professional Development Hour is available to attendees. For questions, please contact [Jordan Pitt](#). Please click [HERE](#) to register by **February 16**.

*Note that no-shows will be charged the full registration fee. We welcome walk-ins, including any registrations made after the guaranteed number of guests is provided to the hotel. However, the cost for walk-ins is higher because the Section is charged accordingly by the hotel for late registrations.*

Chuck is currently living in Washington, DC during the construction of the new Virginia Avenue Tunnel, but his permanent residence is in Jacksonville, Florida.

Please join the American Society of Civil Engineers National Capital Section (ASCE-NCS) on Tuesday, February 21, as Chuck Gullakson, CSX assistant Vice-President -- National Gateway and Chief Engineering Officer for the Virginia Avenue Tunnel Reconstruction Project presents this exciting topic. ■



## President's Corner

Over the past month, the National Capital Section (NCS) has been very busy planning and hosting a variety of activities and events for our membership. Our January section meeting was a successful start to the year thanks to a wonderful presentation by our special guests from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission who gave insight into the many interesting projects that are underway at their Innovative Research Center. The Younger Member Forum (YMF) held their first happy hour networking event of 2017 at Mellow Mushroom in Adams Morgan neighborhood of DC. Our recently formed Reston Committee, which was created to better serve our members in the Northern Virginia region, hosted an Ethics luncheon that served to fulfill the one Professional Development Hour (PDH) Ethics requirement for our members holding professional engineering licensure in Maryland. Even with all of the many activities underway, we were very fortunate to send six of our active members to attend the two-day ASCE Multi-Region Leadership Conference in Newark, NJ, to learn more about ASCE and meet other individuals and rising leaders within ASCE throughout the eastern half of the country.

As we move into February, I hope that you have heard some murmur about the Dream Big IMAX film that is scheduled to be released during Engineer's Week. In fact, we learned recently that the Dream Big IMAX film World Premiere will take place on February 15 in our very own backyard at the Smithsonian's National Air & Space Museum in Washington,



DC! As you may have read in the January edition of President's Corner, the NCS is currently working to provide outreach for the Dream Big film. In addition to our plans to attend local schools and universities to talk about the Dream Big film, we will also be providing volunteer support to

ASCE Headquarters for the Dream Big World Premiere. If you are interested in volunteering for the World Premiere or assisting with our other outreach efforts related to the Dream Big film, please email me at [president@asce-ncs.org](mailto:president@asce-ncs.org). We greatly welcome your support and involvement!

With well over 3,000 dues-paying ASCE members in the NCS (yes, there are a lot of us!), there is always an abundance of work to be done in order to successfully plan and implement the many activities that we hope are worthwhile to our members. We work hard to plan monthly dinner meetings that highlight significant civil engineering projects in our region. We offer PDH credits for the majority of our events. We plan regular happy hour networking events for our Younger Members (these are open to the general membership as well). Our active Committees and Institute Chapters work hard to find interesting topics and engaging speakers to present on the great work they are doing. We strive to develop activities that are both engaging and accessible for our members.

So, who is the "we" that is doing all this work, you might ask? You may be surprised to learn that the group responsible for daily operations of the NCS and regular event planning

only consists of a handful of people (fewer than 20) and that includes the 12 voting members of the NCS Board of Directors! That's roughly half of a percent of our total membership – not considering the thousands of additional non-ASCE members that receive regular email communications and attend meetings on occasion. Imagine what great programs could be developed with only 10 more active volunteers. What could we do with 20 more active volunteers?

My personal charge to you this year is to think about what you can do within our organization to better your life and the lives of those around you. I am thankful for all of the dedicated individuals who have worked hard to solidify our Section as one of the more active ASCE Sections in the country. I am also thankful that we live in a region with such a large membership base that allows us to offer a host of different types of activities for our members. As usual, I encourage you to reach out to me and let us know what we are doing right and what we could be doing better. With the imminent release of the Dream Big IMAX film, I urge you to become more involved with the Section and share your ideas with the NCS Board and Committee chairs. I look forward to seeing you around at the many great events we have planned for this February!

Until next time,



Jordan Pitt  
President, ASCE National  
Capital Section

## Newsletter

Jim Palmer, Editor

**March 2017 Issue Deadline:** February 22, 2017

**To Submit Articles:** [newsletter@asce-ncs.org](mailto:newsletter@asce-ncs.org)

**NCS eNewsletter Archives:** go to [www.asce-ncs.org](http://www.asce-ncs.org) and view along the sidebar.

**Address Changes:** Call 1-800-548-ASCE, e-mail [member@asce.org](mailto:member@asce.org), visit [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org), or write: ASCE – Membership, 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Reston, VA 20191. Include your membership number.

## National Capital Section

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**Mike Venezia**, YMF President

**Rachel Schneider**, Director

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**Alex Rosenheim**, Director

**Victor Crawford**, Director

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**Ranjit S. Sahai**, Previous Past President

### Committee Chairs

Please refer to the [NCS website](http://www.asce-ncs.org) for a current list of NCS committees and chairs.

## Director Letter

Dear Region 2 Members,

At the January 12 ASCE Board of Direction meeting in Los Angeles, the Nominating Committee selected two official nominees for ASCE President-Elect – Kancheepuram N Gunalan, PhD, PE, D.GE, F.ASCE, and Robin A Kemper, PE, LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE. This year's election will take place in June 2017.

The Board also voted to add a Technical Institute Region Director. The Board continues to explore the optimal constitution of the Board including the Region structure, alignment and



Board representation. These topics are to be addressed more fully in the Board of Direction meeting scheduled for July 2017.

In conjunction with the March 2017 release of the ASCE Report Card on America's Infrastructure, ASCE's leadership is already

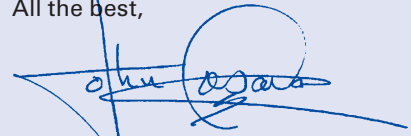
engaging with representatives of the Trump administration and Congress Members regarding potential pathways to pass legislation for resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

After years in development, *Dream Big: Engineering Our World* will be shown at the Smithsonian IMAX

theatre on February 15, and then throughout the nation and world. In my opinion, this initiative can bend the curve by stimulating youth to explore engineering careers. Find out [where to see Dream Big](#).

It's going to be a very exciting 2017 and I look forward to working with all of you to make it successful!

All the best,



John Casana, PE, D WRE, M ASCE  
Director, Region 2

## NCS Annual Awards Banquet – March 21, 2017

Brian Barna, PE, M.ASCE, NCS Vice President

Join us at the Hilton Arlington on the evening of Tuesday, March 21, for the 2017 ASCE-NCS Annual Awards Banquet. We will recognize and celebrate local excellence for the projects, engineers, and students who have contributed to our profession and our community. Project awards will include the ASCE-NCS Outstanding Civil Engineering Projects of the Year and the Sustainability Committee's Award Winning Project. The Project of the Year winners will each present their transformative local projects at the Banquet.

For student awards, the Section will recognize Outstanding Graduating Seniors from each of the five local civil engineering universities, and the recipients of the NCS Student Scholarship Awards will be announced. Other individuals to be recognized include the Meritorious Service and Community Service Award winners, the President's Appreciation Awards, and those members of the NCS who have achieved Life Member or Distinguished Member status during the past year. Help us celebrate our local civil engineering

excellence by joining us at the Banquet in March!

Check your email and [our website](#) for additional event details and registration information. Project of the Year award winners will be announced in the March Newsletter. Sponsorship opportunities are available to support the banquet and other NCS activities. For additional information, please contact [Brian Barna](#) or [Jordan Pitt](#). ■

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## Let's Dream Big!

Upon first consideration, it might not seem the stuff of grand cinematic adventure. But could engineering secretly be an exciting, creative, heroic realm where the optimists of today are creating the life-saving, world-altering marvels that will make for a safer, more connected, more equal and even more awe-inspiring tomorrow?

With an eclectic, stereotype-bursting engineer cast, the huge story told by Dream Big answers that question with a resounding "yes" using a series of surprising human stories to expose the hidden world behind the most exciting inventions and structures across the globe. It is not only a journey through engineering's greatest wonders, but

equally a tale of human grit, aspiration, compassion and the triumph of human ingenuity over life's greatest challenges. *Dream Big: Engineering Our World* will be playing in museums and science centers around the world beginning February 17, following the world premiere February 15 at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. ■

## January Meeting Recap: Innovation at the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)

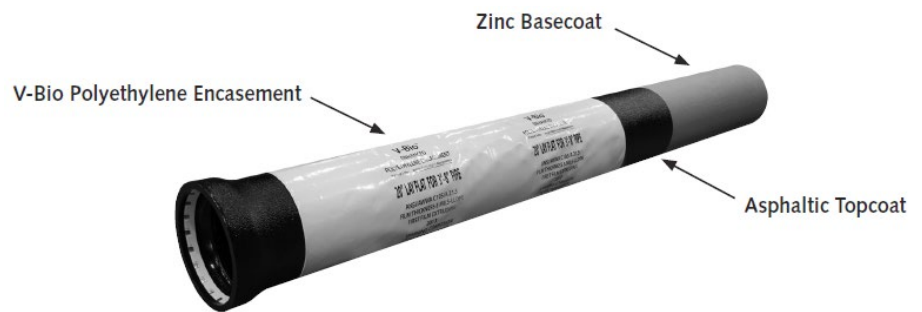
By Sara DeGroot, PE, CFM, Chair EWRI-NCS

Keith Tyson, PE, Technical Services Group Leader for the Engineering and Construction Team, Joe Mantua, Deputy General Manager for Operations, and Rudy Gonzalez, A-E & Construction Procurement/Strategic Sourcing Group Leader at the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) were our guest speakers at the ASCE-NCS January Section Meeting. Mr. Tyson presented on innovation at WSSC with emphasis on zinc-coated ductile iron pipes wrapped in a V-Bio Enhanced Polyethylene encasement to help enhance the life of the pipes and prevent corrosion. WSSC is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest water utility in the nation, and the largest in Maryland. The utility serves about 1.8 million residents in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties and operates and maintains 5,700 miles of fresh water pipeline and 5,500 miles of sewer pipeline.

Almost all pipes in the WSSC pipeline network are ductile iron or cast iron pipe. The majority of pipes in the pipeline network are smaller than 12-inches in diameter, and most pipes were

installed between the 1950s and the 1980s. Based on the estimated lifetime of these pipes, the forecast of breaks is expected to greatly increase over the next 30 years. The main types of corrosion that impact WSSC's pipelines are pitting corrosion and galvanic corrosion. To help prevent corrosion WSSC uses protective coatings/linings on pipes, polymer wrap around the pipe, and cathodic protection. The protective coating/lining on the pipes includes a zinc coating. The zinc coating is effective at preventing corrosion because zinc is anodic to iron. This means that the zinc is consumed in place of the iron, and the zinc corrosion products form

a stable, impermeable binding layer on the outside of the pipe. The zinc is applied to class 54 ductile iron pipe as the basecoat, with an asphalt topcoat applied to reduce the exposed zinc. A V-Bio Polyethylene encasement is used as a protective film outside the pipe. The polymer wrap acts as a corrosion inhibitor to prevent the pipe from oxidizing and an anti-microbial additive to prevent microbial corrosion. These pipes are expected to last almost twice as long as the ductile iron pipes already in the WSSC pipeline network. WSSC also created strategic sourcing teams to reduce the cost of the zinc coated ductile iron pipe and overall cost of the operation. ■



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# 2017 Multi-Region Leadership Conference for Regions 1, 2, 3 & 5

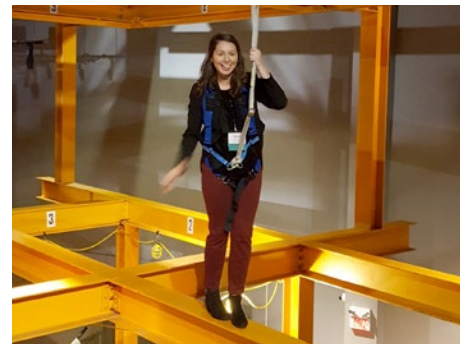
By Brian Barna, P.E., M.ASCE, Vice President

John Casana (Region 2 Director and NCS Past President), Brian Barna (NCS Vice President), and Emily Dean (NCS Treasurer) attended the 2017 Workshop for Section, Branch, and Institute Leaders (WSBL). Mike Venezia (NCS YMF President), Rachel Boots (NCS Communications Chair), and Young Member Sumon Chatterjee attended the 2017 Eastern Region Younger Member Council (ERYMC). Mike O'Connor (NCS Education Committee Chair) attended the 2017 Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL). These three events were held simultaneously on January 20–21, 2017 in Newark, NJ at the Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott. The WSBL, ERYMC and WSCL included hundreds of ASCE members that came from sections, branches, and universities all along the East Coast of the United States.

The two days were packed with speakers and activities meant to inform and energize those in attendance. One of the highlights of the weekend was the opportunity to see a rough-cut version of ASCE's Dream Big movie, which will be widely released this month in IMAX. This is a terrific movie that is sure to inspire everyone from pre-college students to practicing engineers.



Please see the Dream Big article in this Newsletter for more information on this movie and the activities that we have planned around the release. Before the movie, we had the opportunity to tour the Skyscraper exhibit at the Liberty Science Center. This exhibit included the opportunity for several members to put on fall-protection harnesses and walk across narrow steel beams high above the exhibit floor like steel erectors do every day. After walking the beams, we felt respect and admiration for those who do this work for a living. Rachel, impressively, walked the beams while wearing heels.



At the WSCL, a topic of interest was the primary student chapter deliverable, their program plan due on February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. This covers their mission statement, program year activities, fiscal status, membership, leadership, liaisons with the Section, and their activities, especially their service project.

The major takeaway from the WSCL was the emphasis on the plan serving as an

experience delivering an engineering project and product. A number of speakers noted that one of the big advantages of membership in the student chapter is networking but also a chance to build their resume by delivering a program plan in a professional manner, even going so far as instilling a sense in the student chapter to use the program plan as a tool, like a small design project. The speaker made the point that the objective was to make each activity the equivalent of an engineering project to give the experience value for the students.

*continued on page 7*

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## 2017 Multi-Region Leadership Conference for Regions 1, 2, 3 & 5

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Above all, the speakers emphasized the difference between activities and outcomes. Students were encouraged to use this experience as a means of gaining valuable student experience. This was consistent with the theme of the workshop “develop leadership” at all levels.

One of the interesting comments coming out of this discussion on value and “valuing” student chapters was made by one student who noted that although they were “valued” members of the ASCE community; they were not eligible to vote on the society president.

Other topics covered ranged from dual profession careers (Attorney/PE) to ENVISION and LEED certifications, as well as the range of civil engineering practice with comments on CE communities versus CE infrastructure, rural practice of civil engineering on unpaved roads in Arkansas and the International Space Station.

Students discussed problems with Faculty advisors who weren’t engaged with the chapter and wouldn’t support the chapter in its efforts to secure dedicated meeting spaces. Students talked about their social vents from tailgating to “beers with Engineers” social functions. The takeaway from their stories was, “if it’s not fun it’s not going to work.” Students encouraged others to “be silly, be nerdy” noting that “it doesn’t take much to entertain an engineer at 6pm.”

The conference featured several high-level speakers within ASCE, including 2017 President-elect Kristina Swallow, current Executive Director Tom Smith, and former Executive Director Pat Natale. We were treated to a town-hall style debate between the two candidates to become ASCE’s 2018 President-elect: Kancheepuram (Guna) N Gunalan and Robin A Kemper. Session topics included engaging millennials, building trust, ASCE resources, ASCE initiatives (moderated by John Casana), Dream



Region 2 Director John Casana moderates the ASCE Initiatives Forum

Big, the Infrastructure Report Card, websites/communication, student outreach, leadership, and professional ethics. Common themes for the presentations included the “Grand Challenge” to reduce infrastructure life-cycle costs by 50% by 2025 and the “Raise the Bar” initiative to encourage requiring education beyond an undergraduate degree as a prerequisite for licensure in civil engineering. The conference was fun, informative, and great for networking. It should be considered essential for those interested in participating in the local leadership of ASCE. ■

## NCS’ Dr Z Continues to Inspire Generations of Engineers

The NCS Board of Directors would like to congratulate Dr Ahmet “Dr Z” Zeytinci on two recent awards of recognition: the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Distinguished Teaching Award and his election to ASCE Fellow.

The ASEE Distinguished Teaching Award was awarded to Dr Z at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference at Hofstra University, NY in Fall 2016. The award recognizes teachers of engineering and engineering technology students and serves as an incentive to make further significant contributions to teaching. Read further about the ASEE award [here](#).

ASCE Fellows have made celebrated contributions and developed creative solutions that change lives around the world. It is a prestigious honor held by fewer than 3.5% of ASCE members. Further information on the ASCE Fellow title is available [here](#).

Dr Z is a professor of structural engineering and former Chair of the Department of Engineering, Architecture, and Aerospace Technology at UDC. He has been actively involved in research and peer-reviewed conference presentations for the last eight years, publishing on average three papers per year. He has more than 30 years of experience in teaching,



research, and engineering practice across Europe, Japan, and the US. Dr Z is active in local professional organizations, including the NCS, and has been teaching free engineering licensure exam preparation classes for practicing engineers and students on Saturdays for the last decade.

Dr Z is a bit of an NCS celebrity, having published the featured “Dr Z’s Corner” in the newsletter since September 2014. Poke through past Corners [here](#), and read this month’s below! Again, hearty congratulations to Dr Z for his well-earned recognition! ■

### Employment Clearinghouse

The NCS provides the Employment Clearinghouse as a free service to its membership. The Clearinghouse allows members to post short notices for available positions or candidates seeking employment. All employers listed herein are equal opportunity employers. If you have questions, are seeking employment or would like to post a position please contact the [newsletter editor](#) and visit our [jobs page](#).

## Reflecting on 2016: Remembrance of Dmitri T Clemons

It has been almost three years since Ranjit Sahai, Chris Manalo and LJ Sauter of ASCE-NCS decided to have a new column in the monthly eNewsletter for students and practicing engineers. That was the beginning of "Dr. Z's Corner" and the rest was history. As I reflect on 2016, we had some good and some sad news to report. On a personal note, I was pleased to receive another national award, this time from ASEE and the news of ASCE-Fellow. For the sad news, I will share with my readers a letter that I received from Cherod Gregory Hicks, President of ASCE Student Chapter at Morgan State University.

### Remembrance of Dmitri

"My name is Cherod Hicks and over the past semester, I had the honor and privilege of serving as the President of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) at Morgan State University, located in Baltimore, MD. When I was nominated for the position, my first question was, "Who will be serving as my Vice President?" I understood then, as I understand now, without a strong support staff and executive committee, I would be unable to maintain a high standard of excellence that ASCE student chapters hold near and dear to the oldest engineering society in our nation's history, founded in 1852. When I found out it would be Dmitri Clemons, I was excited and couldn't wait for the fall 2016 semester to begin because I knew his work ethic was unparalleled amongst any student in the Department of Civil Engineering. We would bounce ideas off of one another and whenever I questioned my purpose in the field of civil engineering or wondered aloud if I could be successful, he always reassured me by letting me know that the only person that could stop me from achieving my goals was myself.

"Dmitri T Clemons was born in Silver Spring, MD on November 5, 1994 to Lynn Clemons. He was educated in the Montgomery County Public School system, where he graduated from Paint Branch High School in 2013. He was a member of the Varsity football team and he threw Shot Put for the track team. Dmitri was an avid reader and he loved working out. On any given day, you could find him running through campus or working out in the gym. Upon graduation, he attended Morgan State University, where he majored in Civil Engineering. In 2013 and 2014, he received a Certificate of Academic Excellence for making the Dean's List with a 4.0 GPA. He was named Vice President of ASCE, Morgan State Chapter his Junior year and he continued in that role his senior year. He traveled to Philadelphia, PA for the Global Competitiveness Conference and he also traveled to Pittsburgh, PA and Boston, MA for the ASCE Conferences. In June of 2016, he was selected by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Emerging Leaders to represent Morgan State for the US-China Study Delegation. Along with being a member of ASCE, Dmitri was also an active member of the National Society of Black Engineers and the American Society of Highway Engineers.

"It is with sadness and a broken heart that Dmitri passed away on September 21, 2016 after working out. He had a near perfect GPA and his mother received his Bachelors of Science in Civil Engineering posthumously on his behalf at the December 2016 Commencement. He is as missed today as he was the moment we found out he taken his last breath. It is incredibly sad that his life ended so prematurely when we all recognized that greatness had already tapped him as

the next great leader in the field of Civil Engineering. He had aspirations of pursuing his PhD after graduation and was inspirational to his fellow classmates to pursue greater goals as well. He started a GRE study group and he was instrumental in informing us that he was attending Dr. Z's pro-bono Saturday classes at UDC (University of the District of Columbia). I, Cherod Hicks, and Phine Ulysse attended our first class with Dr. Z today and it was one of our best academic experiences to date. It would not have been made possible without Dmitri taking those first steps when he attended those sessions during the summer of 2016 and showed us how much he was learning and technical application he was taking away from Dr. Z. If he were here, he would tell us to smile, suck it up, stop making excuses, and study. Even though he is gone, he will never be forgotten because we all carry a part of him along with us every step we take, especially as we matriculate through our careers and personal lives. Dmitri T Clemons, we miss you, we honor you through our actions, but most importantly, we love you! Rest in Peace Big Homie, God's got you now."

*Cherod Gregory Hicks,  
Morgan '16, Civil Engineering*

I would like to close with uplifting news. Starting next month, we will welcome two new contributors that will be helping us: Dr Lei Wang in Geotechnical and Dr Bryan Higgs in Transportation concentrations.

Until next time,  
Ahmet Zeytinci, P.E.  
Dr. Z. ([az@alfam.com](mailto:az@alfam.com))





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## ASCE-NCS Committee News and Updates

### Reston Committee

By Lisa Anderson, PE, LEED AP, M. ASCE,  
Reston Committee Chair

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, Amanda Baxter and Abi Lerner of the Virginia Department of Transportation will present on Northern Virginia Traffic Projects: I-66 Inside the Beltway and I-395 Express Lanes Northern Extension. The meeting will be held at ASCE Headquarters in Reston, VA starting at 11:45am. On March 9<sup>th</sup>, a joint meeting will be held with the Construction Committee related to the Project Management of Federal Transit Administration projects.

To be added to the Reston Committee distribution list, please contact Lisa Anderson: [Imanders@bechtel.com](mailto:Imanders@bechtel.com) or 703-429-6631.

### Education Committee

By Mike O'Connor, Education  
Committee Chair

Normally, we report on NCS Committee activities such including our K-12 outreach, University/College Outreach and Raise the Bar. Of particular interest this month is the preparation work for celebrating our annual E-Week.

E-Week is a big event coinciding with the release of the long-awaited engineering documentary IMAX movie, *Dream Big: Engineering Our World*. Recently, an advance copy of the film

was screened ahead of the February premiere but the big news is that Jeff Bridges narrates the film! (If you are a Jeff Bridges fan).

NCS volunteers from the Education committee under the leadership of Ranjit Sahaj and newcomers Jameelah Muhammad and Alejandra Martinez, have been working with Gillian Love to organize the roll-out of the ASCE documentary within our section. I wish to commend Jameelah and Alejandra for taking the lead on contacting and organizing the schools, Jameelah for UDC and Howard and Catholic Universities and Alejandra for George Mason University. Another newcomer, Chris Gorman has expressed interest in working as a practice advisor for Catholic University.

Practice advisors are a crucial connection between the Section and our student chapters and the Education Committee will be looking to recruit other volunteers for all our schools with the NCS area. Please consider volunteering as another means of giving back to our community and ensuring the health of the profession's future.

I had the privilege of attending the Multi-Region Leadership Conference Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders last month (see the featured article in

this month's newsletter!) Next month, I will talk more about this work shop but I will close by noting that, regrettably, none of the NCS' five schools chapter leadership participated in the conference. (Maryland Section also was not represented). Maryland was one of the few states including the other "state", the District of Columbia that was completely unrepresented at the workshop. It is a goal of the Education Committee to work to change those numbers going forward.

There will be another workshop next year. We are planning some initiatives that we hope will increase participation from local schools on this worthwhile activity and will talk about those in future newsletters.

Lastly, as has been said many times in past newsletters, the success of the NCS Education program depends upon the capacity of the section to mobilize enough volunteers with a necessary quality and depth in the response.

Engineering professionals who are interested in learning development or fund raising for these programs or identifying resources or grants are encouraged to join the Education Committee and should contact Mike O'Connor at [mike@fplmuseum.org](mailto:mike@fplmuseum.org). ■

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## Volunteers Needed! February Volunteer Opportunities

### Dream Big Premiere

**When:** Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, 6pm to 10pm (The first showing of Dream Big will take place at 6:30 pm, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> showing at 8:30 p.m. and a reception in-between)

**Where:** National Air and Space Museum (National Mall)

**Dress:** Business/cocktail attire

**What:** Volunteers to staff 4 stations. One station will be informational, and 3 stations will feature hands-on activities:

1. A reproduction of the underwater robot called "Stinky" that is featured in the film. (informational, supervising access to the object)
2. Cable-Stayed Bridge Activity Station
3. Wind Tunnel Activity Station

4. Earthquake Resistant Structure Activity Station

**Note:** We think it would be useful for everyone volunteering to see the film before the premier. So we are extending an invitation for volunteers and their families to attend the Press Preview on Thursday February 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the National Air and Space Museum.

**Register:** Email Jeannine Finton, [jfinton@asce.org](mailto:jfinton@asce.org)

### Discover Engineering Family Day

**When:** Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 5pm (Morning Volunteer Shift 9am to 1pm & Afternoon Volunteer Shift 1pm to 5pm)

**Where:** National Building Museum – 401 F Street NW, Washington DC

**Dress:** Casual

**What:** Volunteers are needed for two shifts; the morning shift will be 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and the afternoon shift will be 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. If you can't commit to an entire shift, volunteers are welcome to come in at any time and stay as long as they like. Volunteers will hand out materials and help guide children through an exercise that demonstrates how liquefaction affects buildings that are built in earthquake-prone areas. ASCE-NCS will provide all materials.

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## Upcoming Events (Also available on the NCS website under the [Events tab](#).)

### February 14

**Reston Committee Meeting**, ASCE National Headquarters, Reston, VA. Join the Reston Committee as we welcome Amanda Baxter and Abi Lemer to present on North Virginia Traffic Projects. Contact Lisa Anderson for more information: [lmanders@bechtel.com](mailto:lmanders@bechtel.com).

### February 15

**Geotechnical Executive Committee Meeting**, [Maggianos](#) at Tysons Corner, VA. Andrew Isenhour will present on Geogrids in Roadways. Email Kellie Owens at [kowens@geostructures.com](mailto:kowens@geostructures.com) for a signup link.

### February 18

**Discover Engineering Day**, The [National Building Museum](#), Washington, DC. See the article in this month's newsletter for more information!

### February 20

**Future City Competition**, Capital Hilton, Washington, DC. See the article in this month's newsletter for more information!

### February 21

**NCS Section Meeting**, 6:30–8:30 pm, Hilton Arlington. Charles Gullakson, PE will be presenting on the CSX Tunnel. See this month's featured article for more information.

### February 22

**DCCEAS Proclamation Luncheon**, 11:30 am, Holiday Inn Rosslyn, Arlington, VA. More information and tickets available at the DCCEAS website: <http://www.dcceas.org/>

### February 25

**DCCEAS Awards Banquet**, 6:00 pm, Sheraton Hotel, Silver Spring, MD. More information and tickets available at the DCCEAS website: <http://www.dcceas.org/>

### March 4

**American Water Works Science Fair**, Wakefield High School. Volunteers Needed! Please Contact Sherry Williams for more information: [swilliam@nnva.gov](mailto:swilliam@nnva.gov) tel: 757-234-6723

### March 9

**Joint Construction/Reston Committees Professional Development Meeting**, 5:00–6:00 pm, Bechtel, 12011 Sunset Hills Rd #110, Reston, Va 20190. An agent of the Federal Transit Administration discusses program reviews of large projects from 2006–2010.

### March 15

**Geotechnical Executive Committee Meeting**, [Maggianos](#) at Tysons Corner, VA. Chuck Bailey will present on Local Engineering Gology. Email Kellie Owens at [kowens@geostructures.com](mailto:kowens@geostructures.com) for a signup link.

### March 21

**NCS Annual Awards Banquet**, 6:30–8:30 pm, Hilton Arlington. See this month's teaser article for more information.

### March 24

**Engineers Without Borders 3rd Annual Spring Gala**, 8:00 pm–12m, Josephine Butler Parks Center, 2437 15<sup>th</sup> St NW, Washington, DC. Additional Information and tickets available: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/engineers-without-borders-dc-3rd-annual-spring-gala-tickets-30236216337>

### April 19

**Geotechnical Executive Committee Slope Stability Symposium**, Tysons Corner, VA [Marriott](#). Speakers TBA. Email Kellie Owens at [kowens@geostructures.com](mailto:kowens@geostructures.com) for a signup link.

### June 4–7

**Geo-Risk 2017**: Denver, Colorado. Geotechnical Risk from Theory to Practice will feature the latest research advances and engineering-practice innovations with a focus on the use of probabilistic and risk methodologies in geotechnical engineering. The conference will include a wide range of knowledge-enhancing keynote, panel and technical sessions, as well as short courses. View the [Preliminary Program](#) for program details.

## Volunteers Needed! February Volunteer Opportunities

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**Note:** We are also pleased to announce that Bechtel is back on board as our Family Day partner and they have graciously offered to host a Post-Family Day Networking Event for all volunteers. More information about the networking event will be available in February.

**Register:** Email Dean Westman, [dwestman@wrallp.com](mailto:dwestman@wrallp.com)

### Future City Competition Judges

**When:** Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:30am to 2pm

**Where:** Capital Hilton in Washington, DC

**What:** The Future City Competition, a project-based engineering experience for middle school students, needs volunteer judges to help determine the 2017 Champion. We are seeking judges who can score team models and presentations at the 2017 Finals. On-site training, breakfast, and lunch will be provided. [Please click here for more information](#) about the opportunity.

**Register:** visit [www.futurecity.org/register](http://www.futurecity.org/register) to register as a Finals Competition judge or contact Maggie Dressel, Future City Program Manager, at [maggie@discoverE.org](mailto:maggie@discoverE.org)

### Dream Big Girl Day

**When:** Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, Morning (exact timing TBD)

**Where:** Air and Space Museum (Udvar Hazy)

**What:** There will be a movie showing for the girls followed by activity stations, which is where the need for volunteers comes in. Stay tuned to the [NCS Website](#) for forthcoming details. ■