

NEWS

ACEC

American Council
of Engineering
Companies
of Oregon

August 2003

Alison Davis

Executive Director
adavis@acecOregon.org

Merideth Webber

Executive Assistant
mwebber@acecOregon.org

www.acecOregon.org

Member of the
American Council of
Engineering Companies
Washington, D.C.

NOTICE: Beginning with this issue, the newsletter will be distributed primarily in electronic format. We hope you will use this opportunity to share each issue with a broader range of your engineering colleagues and staff.

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS TAKE OATH

The first order of business is an August planning session.

ACEC Oregon's 2003-2004 board of directors took the oath of office June 25 at Langdon Farms Golf Club in Aurora during Networking Day activities. Past president **Ermel Quevedo** of **Cornforth Consultants, Inc.** performed the installation. Among the officers sworn in was the first woman president-elect in ACEC Oregon history.

The new board of directors first order of business was a planning session August 4 where they discussed goals for year. The Board will meet again on September 25 at SunRiver Resort during ACEC Oregon's joint annual meeting with ACEC Washington.



2003-2004 BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Pictured, from left: President George Gross, President-Elect Cynthia Lowe, Immediate Past President Mike Unger, Secretary/Treasurer Gregg Scholz, and Vice Presidents Tom Fowler, Dwight Hardin and Ken Wightman. Not pictured: Vice President Mel Sears and Regional Vice President Darryl Anderson.

2003-2004 ACEC Oregon Board of Directors

(Terms of office commenced June 25, 2003.)

PRESIDENT

George Gross
Spencer B. Gross, Inc.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Cynthia Lowe
Parsons Brinckerhoff

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Michael W. Unger
Power System Engineers, Inc.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Gregg Scholz
R&W Engineering, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas Fowler
Miller Consulting Engineers

VICE PRESIDENT

Dwight Hardin
GRI *Geotechnical & Environmental Consultants*

VICE PRESIDENT

Mel Sears
Parametrix, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT

Ken Wightman
David Evans and Associates, Inc.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

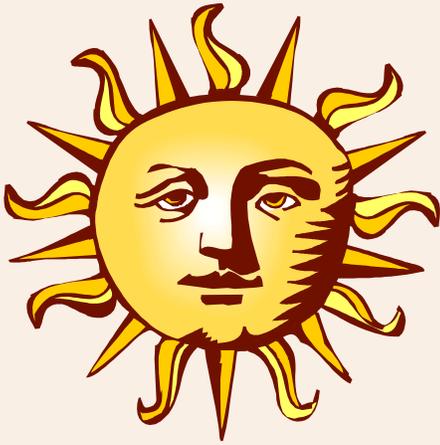
Darryl Anderson
Anderson Engineering & Surveying, Inc.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

The national director represents ACEC Oregon at national ACEC meetings.
Raymond T. Miller
Miller Consulting Engineers



“Setting the Environment: A Look into the Future of Project Management and Business Leadership”
September 17th; see page 3 for details!



Early registration
deadline is August 25!

“New Models of Practice for Design Firms”

with Susan L. Harris, Ph.D.

September
25, 26 and 27th

2003 Joint Annual
Meeting with
ACEC Washington
Sunriver Resort,
Central Oregon

Visit www.acecOregon.org
for more information
and registration forms.



AMONG OURSELVES...

This year, **Miller Consulting Engineers, Inc.** (MCE), Portland, celebrates 25 years of providing practical, diverse structural solutions. Founded in 1978 by **Raymond T. Miller, P.E.**, MCE is a full-service structural firm providing design and analysis for a variety of buildings and facilities. MCE's professional staff is experienced in all facets of structural engineering for remodeling and renovation of existing and historical structures, as well as the design of new structures. Notable projects include: the Oregon State Capitol Building seismic renovation, the Old Oregon Hotel renovation, Vernon Elementary School seismic rehabilitation, Pittock Mansion renovation, the African Rain Forest Exhibit and elephant barns at the Oregon Zoo, the Oregon Coast Aquarium exterior exhibit pools, underwater viewing areas and wave simulation exhibit, Dishman Pool and Lake Oswego Sports Center.

Reid Middleton, Inc. has a new office location and new phone and fax numbers. They are now located at 6650 SW Redwood Lane, Suite 190, Portland 97224, phone (503) 624-6160, fax (971) 250-0025. Reid Middleton has been in business for more than 47 years and is a civil and structural engineering, planning, and surveying firm with corporate headquarters in Everett, Washington.

R&W Engineering, Inc., is pleased to announce the addition of electrical engineer **Doug Shaw, P.E.**, to their Commercial Group. Shaw brings over 29 years of electrical engineering experience to R&W and has extensive experience in educational, park and recreation and field lighting practice as well as all aspects of building electrical and lighting design. R&W has been serving customers since 1978. Services include electrical and mechanical engineering and design, energy services, instrumentation and control systems, and programmable logic controller designs. Shaw can be reached at (503) 292-6000 or by e-mail: dshaw@rweng.com.

W&H Pacific announced the hiring of two individuals well-known in the transportation industry. **Gerald Parmenter, P.E.**, announced his departure of Manager of Capital Project Management Division of Washington County's Department of Land Use and Transportation to join W&H in May. Parmenter will serve as the Transportation Director of W&H Pacific's Portland office. **Ken Husby, P.E.**, former Executive Deputy Director and Chief Engineer of the Oregon Department of Transportation, joined the firm as Transportation Director of W&H Pacific's Salem office. Both Parmenter and Husby have been involved in statewide transportation issues and financing for years.

The Trustees of the **Pacific Northwest Consulting Engineers Health & Welfare Trust** are pleased to announce that **John Littler** of **Littler Environmental Consulting, Inc.**, Woodinville, Washington, has been elected to the Board of Trustees for a five-year term which began January 1, 2003. He will replace John Newby, whose term expired December 31, 2002.

Thank You PAC Donors!

Thank you to the following firms and individuals for their generous contributions to the ACEC Oregon Political Action Committee. Donations such as these are essential to our lobbying efforts. (*Donations made January through July 2003.*)

- **CH2M Hill**
- **Cynthia Lowe, P.E.**
- **David Evans and Associates, Inc.**

“SETTING THE ENVIRONMENT: A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS LEADERSHIP”

Special thanks to David Evans and Associates, Inc. for providing program venue.

Dundar Kocaoglu, Ph.D., P.E. will present “Setting the Environment” on September 17 in the first of nine breakfast programs designed to explore the challenges facing emerging leadership in the design professions.



SYNOPSIS As the design professions emerge into the early part of the twenty-first century, dramatic changes in technology and data systems are revolutionizing the practice of engineering and architecture. Dr. Kocaoglu will focus on projected changes in the industry in the next decade, and will discuss how these will set the environment for the next leadership.

The seminar will set the stage for the remaining series devoted to developing business leadership in the design professions.

BENEFITS

- Discussion of the current design market, business culture and issues confronting current leadership.
- Discussion of the impact of technology and data systems on the current culture.
- Discussion of how the evolving culture sets the stage for aspects of project management such as marketing and client development.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER Dundar Kocaoglu, Ph.D, P.E., is Professor and Chair of the Department of Engineering and Technology Management at Portland State University.

Good for 2 CPDs!

What: Business Leadership Development Series Kick-off Breakfast Program: Project Management I, “Setting the Environment: A Look into the Future of Project Management and Business Leadership”

When: Wednesday, September 17th
 • 7:30 A.M. Check-in and Continental Breakfast
 • 8:00 A.M. Program Begins
 • 10:00 A.M. Conclusion

Where: David Evans and Associates, Inc. 2100 SW River Parkway, Portland (in the Harborside area, under the Marquam Bridge) phone 503-223-6663

Parking: Directions along with parking code will be e-mailed to registrants a few days prior to the program.

Registration deadline is Fri., Sept. 12th



Business Leadership Development Series

“A Look into the Future of Project Management and Business Leadership”

Wednesday, September 17th • David Evans and Associates, Inc. • 2100 SW River Parkway • Portland
 • 7:30 A.M. Check-in & Continental Breakfast • 8:00 A.M. Program • 10:00 A.M. Conclusion

Cost: • \$60 for members *If your firm is a member, then you are a member.*
 • \$75 non-members

Name: _____

Name: _____

Firm Name: _____

Guest Name: _____

PROGRAM GOOD FOR TWO (2) CPD CREDITS.

No. of ____ member(s) @ \$60.00 = \$ _____

No. of ____ non- mbr(s) @ \$75.00 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ACEC OREGON.

Mail check and registration form (or fax form & mail check) for receipt by Friday, September 12th to:
 ACEC OREGON, 5319 SW Westgate Drive, Suite 221, Portland, OR 97221 • phone 503.292.2348 • fax 503.292.2410 • e-mail: mwebber@acecOregon.org

Cancellations must be received on or before the registration deadline to receive a refund.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS ON BOSTON ACEC MEETING

by Ray Miller, Miller Consulting Engineers

ACEC is working on several national items that will affect you and your firm.

ACEC's second strategic goal is to become recognized by all engineering companies in the United States as the primary resource for business practices. With this goal in mind, ACEC has initiated the Institute of Business Management. The business management curriculum is presently being developed. Items still to be resolved include cost of the program, whether it should be for members only, what the certification standards and evaluation criteria will be, and determining what alliances and resources will be utilized. The program's aim is not to compete with local organizations, but to provide global and national support for business practices. A staff white paper is available that provides more in-depth information on the institute.

In the last six months, more than thirty pieces of legislation have been introduced which could have an effect on you and your business. ACEC has blocked pieces of legislation

NEW THREATS TO OUTSOURCING ARE "LOUSY PUBLIC POLICY"

"Highway Robbery" legislation was introduced in the House designed to make it more difficult for state Departments of Transportation (DOT) to outsource engineering services.

Rep. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D-MI), introduced H.R. 1980, which creates road blocks to outsourcing for any federally-aided project exceeding \$100,000. A version of the Kilpatrick bill is expected to be offered as an amendment when legislation to reauthorize TEA-21 comes up later this year.

ACEC government advocacy efforts are aimed at key committee leaders to assure this legislation is defeated.

"This legislation is lousy public policy and a clear attempt to stop outsourcing," said ACEC Transportation Committee Chairman Jerry Stump.

The Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior has also introduced an anti-outsourcing provision for the fiscal year 2004 Interior Appropriations bill. The provision prohibits all agencies within the Department of Interior from moving forward with the Administration's competitive sourcing plan.

ACEC is working with the Bush Administration and industry allies to have this anti-outsourcing language removed.

that prevented outsourcing of engineering work at the federal level. Also, exempt vs. non-exempt employees is being defined, through legislation at the national level. Other legislative items include the TEA-21 reauthorization, FLSA reform, water infrastructure and AIR-21 reauthorizations.

Other items of interest:

- ACEC's website had 1.5 million hits in April
- NCEE is coming out with a new model for engineering licensing.

ACEC MINNESOTA FIGHTS "REVERSE AUCTIONS"

ACEC Minnesota is battling Governor Tim Pawlenty and the state legislature over a provision that allows agencies to use "reverse auctions" (or bidding) when acquiring professional engineering services.

Under the reverse auction process, an agency collects bids from potential providers. The bids are posted for all competitors to view, and engineering firms are encouraged to submit new bids in a drive to find the lowest price.

ACEC national is working with ACEC/MN to overcome the implementation of the reverse auction provision. The Council has also successfully prevented similar efforts at the federal level.

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, October 30

Silent Auction & Dinner Program

**"Conerly on the Economy"
with economist Bill Conerly**

Embassy Suites
Downtown Portland

Look for auction item donation forms
to be e-mailed to firm reps.

SECOND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT NAMED; WILL ATTEND OREGON STATE THIS FALL

Scholarship Committee Chair and President-Elect, **Cynthia Lowe, Parsons Brinckerhoff**, is pleased to announce the second recipient of the ACEC Oregon Scholarship – **Galen Kovak-Lewis**.

Kovak-Lewis is a graduate of Mapleton High School, a school with a total enrollment of approximately 86 students. Mapleton, Oregon, is located about 15 miles up the Siuslaw River from Florence. Kovak-Lewis attended the Networking Day dinner in June. His mother, Deborah, commented that he was thrilled to meet the engineers and excited for the opportunities to utilize so many real-world mentors.



Pictured at Langdon Farms Golf Course during Networking Day activities are, from left, Cynthia Lowe, Scholarship Committee Chair, and Galen Kovak-Lewis, ACEC Oregon's second scholarship recipient. Kovak-Lewis will attend Oregon State University's College of Engineering this fall.

Prior to the dinner, Kovak-Lewis attended an orientation session for new students at Oregon State University, where he will attend the College of Engineering this fall. He was selected from a scholarship application field of 75. Lowe said the main factor in his selection centered on his comprehension of the interaction of transportation and land use planning in the development of livable communities, as demonstrated in his essay. The Scholarship Committee was also impressed by his scholastic achievements and community activities, which include being his class valedictorian and also receiving the outstanding senior boy trophy and outstanding senior math award. He is well prepared to begin his engineering studies at OSU having completed high school calculus and college math levels 111 and 112. Kovak-Lewis hopes to complete his engineering degree in four years and plans to focus his studies on civil engineering, particularly structural.

Kovak-Lewis is also an accomplished athlete and lettered all four years in track. He placed first in the high school division A district track meet for the 800 meter event. He went on to run in the state division A meet where he took ninth place in the 800 meter event.

When asked why he decided to go into engineering, Kovak-Lewis remarked that he's had some hands-on experience building things, such as large scale models of three different bridge types—bottom arch, truss and single span segmented arch—for a school project. After various tests, he and his partner determined that the single span segmented arch was the strongest structure in that it was able to withstand the most pressure before collapsing. He really enjoyed the bridge building project and said that he seems to have an aptitude for that type of work.

Congratulations, Galen!

*Thank You
Sponsors &
Golfers!*

NETWORKING DAY MULLIGAN SALES RAISE \$400 FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In a new fundraising twist this year, mulligans were sold to golfers during Networking Day in June to help fund the ACEC Oregon Scholarship. Thank you to the golfers who helped raise \$400 for the scholarship fund.

In addition, thank you to our generous sponsors for providing golf prizes:

- **USI Northwest**
- **Parsons Brinckerhoff**
- **GRI Geotechnical & Environmental Resources**

To make a **tax deductible** donation to the endowment fund, make checks payable to the **Oregon Student Assistance Commission**, indicate "ACEC Oregon #371" on the memo line and mail to: **Oregon Student Assistance Commission, Grants & Scholarship Division, P.O. Box 40370, Eugene, OR 97404.**

If you would like additional information on the scholarship program or the endowment fund, please contact Cynthia Lowe at (503) 274-7217 or lowe@pbworld.com.

Scholarships cover tuition and fees for four years at an Oregon college that has an ABET-accredited engineering program. Qualifying Oregon schools are: Oregon State University, Portland State University, University of Portland and the Oregon Institute of Technology.

Coba's Capitol Commentary...

GOVERNOR SIGNS TRANSPORTATION BILL; MORE IN 2005?

by ACEC Oregon lobbyist Marshall Coba, Coba Company

Governor Ted Kulongoski signed HB 2041, the ten-year \$2.5 billion transportation package, into law recently. The package, touted as a jobs bill that will ease Oregon's nationally leading unemployment rate, will be an essential investment into Oregon's economic future as the state has fallen drastically behind in maintenance and repair of the road and bridge system.

HB 2041 was a priority for the Governor and is a major political victory in a session marred by vicious partisan politics. In the end however, it was a reasoned approach to a much-needed investment that was ultimately successful in passing the bill.

But the Governor may not be finished. In a recent letter thanking ACEC Oregon for our support and involvement he suggests that another transportation funding package may be brought forward to the 2005 session. The Governor's letter, dated August 1, states "I would like very much to welcome you to participate with me over the interim in identifying ways to improve our project delivery, our interaction with the public, and in any way improving public confidence in our transportation delivery system. While I will take a moment to pause and appreciate the grand effort in passing HB 2041, I am already thinking about a legislative package to further improve our transportation system and infrastructure for the 2005 session."

As we begin the second full week in August and extend the record for the longest session, we see signs that the budget negotiators are working toward an agreement. The K-12 school

funding and Department of Human Services budgets are the main sticking points holding up a final drive to sine die. Matching up the projected income and expenses is a tricky situation in our down economy and will most likely require additional special sessions as we move into next year.

As the session moves towards its final conclusion, it is important to remember the sacrifices the legislators have made to serve. Our citizen legislators are serving at a time that is one of the most volatile in Oregon's history with incredible declines in state revenue and increasing needs from some of our most vulnerable citizens. Most of them are away from family and have additional expenses that are not adequately covered by their \$1,290 per month salary. Legislative leaders have worked tirelessly to maintain their caucus's ideological standards while also trying to meet Oregon's budgetary needs. This delicate dance of legislation will, as it has for more than 225 years in America, ultimately work itself out by both sides moving toward the political middle. It isn't easy and often is not very pretty, but it is a system that has proven to be superior and has stood the test of time.

"I am already thinking about a legislative package to further improve our transportation system and infrastructure for the 2005 session."
—Gov. Ted Kulongoski,
in letter to ACEC Oregon

Major issues will go unanswered this session but interim committees will begin working on solutions to be brought to the 2005 session. An interim committee will take an in-depth look at major tax revisions to find a balance to Oregon's up and down tax revenue. This potential tax overhaul could, many believe, be the catalyst to get Oregon's economy moving again. Look for legislative action on this during a special session or in 2005.

MEMBERS INFLUENCE OSBEELS DECISION REGARDING RULES CHANGE FOR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

Recently the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) considered a proposed Oregon Administrative Rule which would allow the use of electronic signatures on engineering documents.

ACEC Oregon member **Erik Peterson, Peterson Structural Engineers, Inc.**, conducted much research on this issue and reported his findings to the ACEC Oregon Risk Management Committee and the ACEC Oregon Board of Directors.

In response to Peterson's findings, the Risk Management Committee voted to oppose the use of electronic signatures on hard copy electronic documents. The Board agreed and issued a letter to OSBEELS opposing allowing digital signatures until the risk is reduced through the development of new technology to safeguard the public and the profession from misuse.

In May, ACEC Oregon Board member **Tom Fowler, Miller Consulting Engineers** and Peterson traveled to Salem to speak to the OSBEELS Board on the subject.

During the meeting, Peterson submitted a position paper on the matter of electronic signatures and digital document files and explained why he did not favor electronic signatures at this time. Fowler stated that ACEC Oregon also opposed changing the rules on digital signatures.

As a result of the work done by ACEC Oregon members, OSBEELS has decided against making any changes to the Oregon Administrative Rules concerning electronic signatures at this time. Currently, the Board's "reference manual" states that *wet signatures* are required on engineering and architectural documents.

HELP BRIDGE THE GAP AND DEVELOP YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS--JOIN AN ACEC OREGON COMMITTEE TODAY!



The work carried out by committees is the backbone of ACEC Oregon. Participation in committees directly affects the organization and helps to advance the mission of the council. Committee work is both educational and interactive. Committee members have a chance to interact with other ACEC Oregon members which can lead to improved business practices in their firms. Participation on an ACEC Oregon committee is also a great way to gain leadership skills and give back to the profession.

Please check the committee(s) on which you'd like to serve. If you are interested in serving on more than one committee, please rank your choices with 1 being your first choice, 2 your second choice, and so on. Remember, you may be in the 2nd or 3rd year of an existing committee term already. Please call ACEC Oregon at (503) 292-2348 or e-mail mwebber@acecOregon.org if you are unsure of your term status.

Committee members serve three-year terms. Get involved today!

Sign-up by Thursday, September 18!

Name: _____ Firm: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please fax or mail this form to for receipt by September 18 to: ACEC Oregon, 5319 SW Westgate Drive, Suite 221, Portland, OR 97221-2411, fax 503/292-2410.

Risk Management Committee

OBJECTIVE: To assist member firms in understanding professional liability insurance and how to identify and manage professional liability risks. Also, to help improve the legal climate for improving competitiveness and the business environment.

Legislative Committee

OBJECTIVE: To promote and protect the interests of consulting engineers primarily through state legislative action, monitor legislation, initiate membership action by formulation of objectives to support and oppose legislation.

Operations/Admin. Committee

OBJECTIVE: To provide budget oversight, monitor the financial affairs of the Council, and to write and recommend sound fiscal policies and procedures, including investment strategies.

Liaison Committees (pick one below)

OBJECTIVE: To provide members with the opportunity to improve working relationships with public agency personnel. Each liaison committee has its own agenda, but communications and problem-solving are primary concerns.

ODOT (Oregon Dept. of Transportation)

FHWA (Federal Highway Admin.)

Army Corps of Engineers

OACES (Oregon Association of County Engineers & Surveyors)

Programs Committee

OBJECTIVE: To work with the Executive Director, review program ideas and make recommendations for future events, including membership meetings, educational programs and the annual meeting. Also support the annual Engineering Excellence program by review of potential rules changes, and provide input regarding program direction.

Scholarship Committee

OBJECTIVE: To provide oversight and direction for the ACEC Oregon scholarship program, including fund raising activities, management of the endowment fund, placement of scholarships, coordination with universities, and interaction with scholarship recipients.

Speakers' Bureau

OBJECTIVE: To provide ready and willing resources to speak to students about engineering as a profession or engineering in general; also, to serve as a resource in educating public agencies about Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS).

- I'd prefer to talk in the schools.
- I'd prefer to talk to public agencies.
- I'll speak to either group.

ACEC Oregon

Mark your calendar...

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 17th

Business Leadership Development Series
Project Management I, "Setting the
Environment: A Look into the Future of
Project Mgmt. & Business Leadership"
David Evans and Associates, Inc.,
Portland See page 3 for more info!

Thursday 25th - Saturday 27th

Board of Directors Meeting and
ACEC Oregon Joint Annual Meeting
with ACEC Washington
"New Models of Practice for Design Firms"
Sunriver Resort, Central Oregon
There's still time to register!
Visit www.acecOregon.org for more
information and registration forms.



OCTOBER

Wednesday 8th - Saturday 11th

ACEC (National) 2003 Fall Conference
JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa
Phoenix, Arizona
For more information or to register,
visit www.acec.org or contact ACEC's
Meetings Dept. at (202) 347-7474.

Wednesday 15th

Project Management II B'fast Program
David Evans and Associates, Inc.
Portland

Monday 27th

ACEC Oregon Engineering Excellence
Phase 1 Deadline

Wednesday 22th

Board of Directors Meeting
ACEC Oregon, 3:00 P.M.

Thursday 30th

Silent Auction & Dinner Program
"Conerly on the Economy"
Embassy Suites Downtown Portland

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 4th

ACEC Oregon Engineering Excellence
Workshop

Wednesday 19th

Marketing/Sales Breakfast Program
David Evans and Associates, Inc., Portland

Board of Directors Meeting

ACEC Oregon, 3:00 P.M.

Monday 24th

ACEC Oregon Engineering Excellence
Phase 2 Deadline



Register for September 17 Program
Project Management I, "Setting the Environment:
A Look into the Future of Project Management and
Business Leadership," page 3. Good for 2 CPDs!

American Council of Engineering Companies of Oregon
5319 SW Westgate Drive, Suite 221 ♦ Portland, Oregon 97221
phone 503.292.2348 ♦ fax 503.292.2410 ♦ www.acecOregon.org

ACEC Oregon