



# COLLEGE OF FELLOWS NEWSLETTER

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## Chair's Corner



The Fall Conference in Chicago was a great success for the College of Fellows. We were able to honor Lennox Nishimura with a Fellow's Distinguished Service Award and named scholarship for his many years of service to the Fellows Committee and ACEC.

At the Awards Luncheon, we also recognized 17 newly elected Fellows, 5 scholarship recipients, 4 Community Service Award winners, and 5 Young Professional of the Year Award Winners. We conducted an Order of the Engineer Ceremony and our Charity Fun Walk raised over \$3000 for the Girls on the Run, a non-profit selected by ACEC/Illinois. Our private architectural river cruise was in a glass enclosed heated boat and was a great opportunity to network with other Fellows and their guests.

One of the highlights of the conference was hearing a presentation on ACEC's new Strategic Plan which was approved by the Board at the conference. The existing Fellow's programs align very closely with the Strategic Plan so we have the opportunity to be actively involved with its implementation. It's going to fun watching ACEC continue to evolve as an influential thought leader in the built environment.

We also invited the new Fellows to our Fellow's Committee meeting on Monday. It was a great opportunity for them to see what the Fellow's Committee does. If you are interested in the Committee or any of our programs, please contact us.

Thanks to all the Fellows that made the Chicago Meeting such a success. Best wishes for the Holiday season and a prosperous New Year to all.

**Dennis Ford, Chair  
Fellows Committee**

## Eleven Members Inducted into Order of the Engineer



At the 2019 Fall Conference in Chicago, 11 ACEC members were inducted into the Order of the Engineer, a national organization dedicated to "upholding the standards and dignity of the engineering profession. Conducting the ceremony were Roch Larochele, chair of the Board of Governors of the Order of the Engineer, (first on left) and ACEC Chair Mitch Simpler (third on left).

## COF Takes Center Stage at Awards Luncheon



ACEC Chair Mitch Simpler (left) presents the College of Fellows Distinguished Service Award to Lennox Nishimura.

The College of Fellows presented a host of awards at the annual Awards Luncheon at the 2019 ACEC Fall Conference.

The Fellows Committee awarded academic scholarships to Jarrett Nuyen, Western Michigan University, \$10,000 ACEC Scholar of the Year Scholarship; Tyler Tsuchida, University of Hawaii, \$5,000 ACEC Life/Health Trust Scholarship; Cara Dumonte, University of Southern California, \$5,000 Professional Liability Agents Network Scholarship; Zachary Jerome, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, \$5,000 a/e ProNet Scholarship; Jennifer Briggs, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, \$5,000 Rina Lee Scholarship; Megan Patterson, The Ohio State University, \$3,500 Small Firm Council Scholarship; Jon Cowart, Pennsylvania State University, \$3,000 College of Fellows Scholarship; and Tyler Wilfong, California State University, Fresno, \$2,500.

Honored as Young Professionals of the Year were Lindsey Kerkez, OMH Advisors, Livonia, Mich.; Mary Kerstein, CHA Consulting, Indianapolis, Ind.; Feng Li, Golder, Redmond, Wash.; Jacob Turgeon, HGA Architects + Engineers, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Ben Wood, Strand Associates, Milwaukee, Wis.

Community Service Awards winners were Phil Houser, Benesch, Chicago; Ann Forte Trappey, Forte and Tablada, Baton Rouge, La.; Tricia Ruby, Ruby + Associates, Bingham Farms, Mich.; and Melvin Williams, S&ME, Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Lennox Nishimura received the College of Fellows Distinguished Service Award for his 16 years of service to the Fellows and ACEC and tireless work to improve the scholarship programs.

### ACEC Fellows Committee

**Dennis Ford (Chair)  
Alain Gallet (Vice Chair)  
Kyle Anderson  
Bob Barnett  
June Nakamura  
Lennox Nishimura  
Cathy Ritter**

**Jane Rozga  
Donald Sipher  
Peter Strub  
Rick Toole  
Richard Wells  
Doris Willmer  
Daisy Nappier, Staff**



## COF Charity Fun Walk Raises Record \$3,600+



The College of Fellows Charity Fun Walk keeps getting bigger. In its fourth year, the event, which is held annually at the ACEC Fall Conference, raised more than \$3,600 on donations from 161 people. The Charity Fun Walk benefited Girls on the Run, a non-profit organization that uses running to help girls develop their potential.

## Committee Inducts 17 New Fellows



ACEC Chair Mitch Simpler (left) and Fellows Committee Chair Dennis Ford inducts Stephanie Hachem into the ACEC College of Fellows.

The ACEC College of Fellows inducted 17 new members at the 2019 ACEC Fall Conference:

**W. Arthur Barrett**, Gannett Fleming, Baltimore, Md.; **Troy Bowers**, Murraysmith, Portland, Ore.; **Rick Fauteux**, HDR, North Charleston, S.C.; **Stephanie Hachem**, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Raleigh, N.C.; **Gilbert Hantzsch**, MSA Professional Services, Baraboo, Wis.; **Mark Harms**, SCI Engineering, O'Fallon, Ill.; **William Hoffman**, CTL | Thompson, Colorado Springs, Colo.; **Keith Jackson**, HNTB, Austin, Texas; **Keith London**, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, Murrieta, Calif.; **Jason Matson**, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Orange, Calif.; **John O'Neill**, H.W. Lochner, Chicago, Ill.; **Erik Peterson**, Peterson Structural Engineers, Portland, Ore.; **John Rathke**, Mead & Hunt, De Pere, Wis.; **Steven Speaks**, Larry Speaks and Associates, Montgomery, Ala.; **Elizabeth Stolfus**, Stolfus & Associates, Greenwood Village, Colo.; **Lawrence Truman**, Michael Baker International, Ontario, Calif.; and **Daniel Williams**, Garver, North Little Rock, Ark.

## ACEC Presses Ahead on Transportation and Water

Can ACEC's agenda overcome impeachment politics? There is a great deal of interest on Capitol Hill in moving forward with a bipartisan infrastructure agenda, but an obvious concern is what impact the ongoing investigations and impeachment hearing will have.

Historically, infrastructure has flown below the "political radar," often passing with broad bipartisan margins at times when little else moves in Congress.

Success remains a possibility in this Congress. The Senate has already started moving a bipartisan, five-year, \$287 billion package on roads and bridges, and as other programs, such as transit, are added in, the price tag could grow beyond \$300 billion. While the Senate hasn't identified a funding source to supplement the depleted Highway Trust Fund, the aggressive funding levels and bipartisan cooperation are encouraging.

The House is expected to release its draft legislation in early 2020, with T&I Committee Chair Peter DeFazio (D-OR) wanting a surface transportation bill that funds airports, water, and promotes public housing and other types of "social infrastructure."

Congress will also take up new Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) legislation, which will include new Corps of Engineers projects and may increase federal funding through the State Revolving Fund program.

The pieces of a solid agenda for 2020 are emerging. ACEC is working with the US Chamber and other groups to keep these initiatives out of the political storm and keep lawmakers focused on getting them passed and signed into law.

Stay tuned!

## ACEC/PAC: Getting Results

The ACEC/PAC is on track to achieve the \$1 million goal for the fourth straight year! Thanks to member contributions, ACEC/PAC ranks as the #1 PAC in the built Industry; #18 in all Trade Associations in Washington, D.C., and #50 in all PACS in the country.

Since September, ACEC/PAC has hosted 11 PAC events with key members of Congress, including the #2 ranking Senate Democrat, House Majority Leader, and a top member of the House Ways & Means Committee.

And we get results. In that meeting with the Ways & Means Committee member, he told us that due to ACEC's continuing advocacy, the 179D tax credit is close to coming up for a vote and he added, "You will love what is in the bill."

Each week, staff meets with newcomers to Congress and with candidates. They are the ones asking for the meeting, not us! That's when we know that having an influential and strong PAC is making a difference.