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ACEC Honors Five Top Engineers as 2020 Young Professionals of the Year

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Council of Engineering Companies – the voice of the business of engineering- has named five early-career engineers as the 2020 Young Professionals of the Year. The annual awards program celebrates exceptional young engineers who through their professional achievements and community activities have made out-sized contributions to society.

“These talented professionals represent the future of the engineering industry. Their work even early on in their careers has helped to improve lives and shape the way we interact with the built environment. I, along with everyone at ACEC congratulate them and look forward to their growth as engineers and business leaders,” said ACEC Board Chair Charles Gozdiewski.

These five award winners were nominated by the ACEC Member Organization in their state and they were evaluated and selected by the Awards Subcommittee of the Fellows Committee.

The winners are:

Jason Bock, P.E., an associate at Geotechnical Resources, Inc. in Beaverton, OR. Bock is shaping the profession’s understanding of the interaction of seismic forces on soil and structures. He has integrated his research and expertise into the seismic resiliency upgrade project at Portland International Airport, where he is working with the project team to design a foundation retrofit to existing structures, new resilient concourses, and a runway designed to be functional following a major earthquake.

Emily Bernzott Emm, P.E., an engineer at NTM Engineering, Inc. in Dillsburg, PA. Emm is the hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) engineer on several major infrastructure projects across Pennsylvania and the lead engineer and assistant project manager for NTM’s H&H work on FHWA Pilot Study for the Site-Specific Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analyses for Assessing Transportation Infrastructure Vulnerability and Resilient Design for Bridges in Pennsylvania. She is the current president of the Central PA Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar.

Alexandra Gore, P.E., PMP, a lead transportation engineer at WSP USA, Inc. in New York, NY. After serving as client liaison on the $40-million LaGuardia AirTrain project, Gore was nominated for and completed WSP’s nine--month 2019 Global Project Management Academy, graduating with a Project Management Professional (PMP) credential. She serves as the National lead for WSP’s 3,000-member Developing Professional Network and is vice-chair of ACEC New York’s Emerging Leaders Committee.

Susan Mukai, P.E., LEED AP, a senior engineer at Brown and Caldwell in Honolulu, HI. Beginning her career as a seasonal intern at Brown and Caldwell in 2007, Susan Mukai has advanced to be a senior engineer,
project manager, and supervisor. She is the project manager for a multi-million-dollar design project to convey and reuse highly treated wastewater effluent and surface water supply for agricultural irrigation. Within the firm, she was the co-facilitator of the 300-member Rising Professionals community of practice.

Walter Thomas Edward “Eddie” Wade, P.E., EVP at Croy Engineering in Marietta, GA. As Executive Vice President—and the youngest owner of the firm—Eddie Wade leads Croy Engineering's business development efforts, effectively doubling the company's revenue during his tenure. He is actively involved in numerous corporate, industry, civic and charitable organizations and has been named Georgia’s Young Engineer of the Year, a “20 Under 40” recipient, and a “Next Generation Award” winner.

ACEC will honor these engineers during the ACEC Fall Conference, which will be held virtually on October 28-30, 2020.

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The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of the nation’s engineering industry. Founded in 1906, ACEC is a national federation of 52 state and regional organizations representing more than 5,600 engineering firms and 600,000+ engineers, surveyors, architects, and other specialists nationwide. ACEC member firms drive the design of America’s infrastructure and built environment.