



# COLLEGE OF FELLOWS NEWSLETTER

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## Pecori Succeeds Strub as ACEC Chair



ACEC Chair Sergio "Satch" Pecori

Hanson Professional Services Chair/CEO Sergio "Satch" Pecori took the gavel as 2017-2018 ACEC chairman at the ACEC Convention last week, succeeding Peter Strub of TranSystems.

"I look forward to working to address priorities such as infrastructure funding,

risk management, and the impact of automation and new forms of contracting on our businesses," said Pecori.

In addition to Pecori, new members of the Executive Committee are: Chair-elect Manish Kothari, president/CEO, Sheladia Associates; Charlie Gozdziwski, executive chairman, Hardesty & Hanover; Mike McMeekin, president, Lamp, Rynearson & Associates; and Gayle Roberts, president/CEO, Stanley Consultants.

They join current ExCom members: Mary Erchul, principal, Ghirardelli Associates; Joel Goodmonson, EVP, Architectural Engineers; Thomas Mosure, president/chair, ms consultants; John Nelson, CFO, Wright-Pierce; and ACEC President/CEO Dave Raymond.

## Fellows Fall Conference Charity 5K Walk/Run

Following on the heels of the rousing success of the Fellows 3K Walk for Pike's Peak Habitat for Humanity, the Fellows are planning a 5K Run/Walk at the Fall Conference in Orlando!

The Fellows Event will be on Tuesday, October 17 on the Waldorf Astoria property.

The registration fee will be donated to the Give Kids the World Village, which provides week-long vacations for children with life-threatening diseases.

Power Breakfast and Bloody Marys will be available. Start training now and encourage Fellows to join us for a morning of fitness and fun.

Please contact Daisy Nappier at (202) 347-7474 or dnappier@acec.org for further details.

### ACEC Committee of Fellows

<b>June Nakamura (Chair)</b>	<b>Lennox Nishimura</b>
<b>Dennis Ford (Vice-Chair)</b>	<b>Cathy Ritter</b>
<b>Bob Barnett</b>	<b>Peter Strub</b>
<b>Edwin Dedeaux</b>	<b>Richard Wells</b>
<b>Alain Gallet</b>	<b>Doris Willmer</b>
<b>M.L. Love</b>	<b>Daisy Nappier, Staff</b>

## Committee Elects Seven New Fellows

The ACEC Committee of Fellows elected seven new members into the College of Fellows at the ACEC Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. last month.

The new Fellows are: **Lee Abramson**, Mott MacDonald, Pleasanton, Calif.; **John Moossazadeh**, Kleinfelder, San Diego, Calif.; **Kevin Peterson**, P2S Engineering, Inc., Long Beach, Calif.; **Matthew Richards**, Strand Associates, Inc., Madison, Wis.; **John Olsson**, Olsson Associates, Lincoln, Neb.; **Matthew Tondl**, HDR, Omaha, Neb.; and **Raymond DeStephen**, Schnabel Engineering, Inc., Glen Allen, Va.

The newly elected Fellows will be inducted into the College of Fellows at the 2017 ACEC Fall Conference in Orlando, October 15-18.

## Dave Raymond to Retire in 2018

Informing the ACEC Board of Directors that he plans to retire in May 2018—after almost 20 years as president/CEO—Dave Raymond, who will be 70 next year, joked that his "sell-by date" is coming up.

ACEC Chair Sergio "Satch" Pecori said, "Under Dave's leadership, ACEC has gained national



ACEC President/CEO Dave Raymond

and international stature as the voice of our industry and achieved many important business and political goals."

Pecori named a search committee headed by Gregs Thomopoulos and including Peter Strub, Manish Kothari, Tim Psomas, Robin Greenleaf and himself.

## Community Service Award Nominations

The COF is soliciting nominations for the 2017 ACEC Community Service Awards, which recognize Member Firm leaders who have made a significant impact on the quality of life in their communities.

Member Organizations nominate award candidates, who must have at least five years of experience as a principal or manager in an ACEC Member Firm. The deadline for nominations is June 16.

For more information, contact Daisy Nappier at 202-347-7474 or dnappier@acec.org.

## Fellows Award Seven 2017 Scholarships

ACEC's Committee of Fellows has selected seven engineering students to receive 2017 Scholarships.

Matthew David Burton (University of Cincinnati) was awarded the \$10,000 ACEC Scholar of the Year scholarship.

Margarita Kovalchuk (California State University) received the \$5,000 ACEC Life/Health Trust Scholarship.

Emily Valenzuela (Colorado State University) was awarded the \$5,000 a/e ProNet Engineering Scholarship.

Nicholas DeSimpelare (Michigan State University) received the \$5,000 Professional Liability Agents Network Scholarship.

Rena Weis (University of Minnesota) was awarded the \$3,000 College of Fellows Scholarship.

Taylor Wiegand (Michigan Technological University) received the \$2,500 Small Firm Council Scholarship.

Tristan Yount (University of Kansas) was awarded the \$5,000 Council of American Structural Engineers (CASE) scholarship.

Kudos to Lennox Nishimura, who leads the Scholarship Committee, and Daisy Nappier. Both put in many hours organizing and making the selection process as streamlined as possible for the other Fellows who select the winners including Dennis Ford, Bob Barnett, Ed Dedeaux, Ed Mulcahy, Cathy Ritter and Doris Willmer.

## ACEC Plans Full 2017 Legislative Agenda

The new Administration and new Congress are focused on a number of major issues that will impact the engineering industry, creating real opportunities for ACEC to shape that agenda on behalf of member firms.

As we have witnessed in the last several months, this agenda is no easy lift, and the political problems surrounding the White House haven't helped. Nevertheless, ACEC will continue to engage in the process of reforming or replacing the Affordable Care Act, since the mandates and new taxes in current law affect our members.

Tax reform requires a degree of bipartisan cooperation that doesn't exist right now. Once again, however, ACEC is very much in the fight, urging Congress to maintain balance in the process of reducing tax rates, ensuring that the code treats corporations as well as pass-through businesses equally.

ACEC is urging Congress to take a balanced approach with infrastructure, one that includes incentives for public-private partnerships (P3s) together with direct investments in the Highway Trust Fund, water and wastewater programs, and other core federal infrastructure programs. Like the other issues discussed previously, this will be a challenge, but the prospects of passing a \$1 trillion infrastructure program represents a generational opportunity that we must pursue aggressively.

## ACEC/PAC On Pace For Record Fundraising

ACEC/PAC is off to a record start to 2017, with over \$475,000 raised for the first five months of the year.

National ACEC/PAC Chairman Charlie Gozdziwski of Hardesty & Hanover in New York credits the PAC's ongoing fundraising momentum with growing awareness by ACEC members on federal issues impacting ACEC member firms. "ACEC/PAC allows ACEC members and our lobbying team to meet with key U.S. Senators and Congressman and their staff to insure our side of the legislative story is heard," he said.

For more information about ACEC/PAC and its program contact Greg Knopp, ACEC's Executive Director for Political Affairs at [gknopp@acec.org](mailto:gknopp@acec.org) or Katherine Bohny, ACEC/PAC Director at [kbohny@acec.org](mailto:kbohny@acec.org) 202-347-7474.

## Fellows Breakfast at ACEC Convention



Pictured left to right: Andrew Off, Assistant General Manager, Rail Services, WMATA; Laura Mason, Director, Safe Track, WMATA; Mark Steiner, Principal Advisor, ACEC; June Nakamura, Chair, Committee of Fellows; and Pat Lavin, Chief Safety Officer, WMATA

At the April 25 Fellows Breakfast, members were wowed by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) presentation on SafeTrack an accelerated track work plan to address safety recommendations and rehabilitate the Metrorail system to improve safety and reliability.

Presenters Patrick Lavin, Chief Safety Officer and Staff Members Laura Mason and Andrew Off explained how Metro "SafeTrack" program will accomplish approximately three years' worth of work in approximately one year.

One of the most intriguing parts of the presentation was how WMATA is heavily invested in public outreach using their website and social media to inform the public of interruptions in service. This outreach is critical to its local ridership and tourists dependent on WMATA during their visits to the DC area.

Another strategy they employed was inviting the media to two workdays, one in the summer and one in the winter, so that they could see for themselves what was involved in the actual field work. During these work days, the media was exposed to the same conditions that the WMATA workers were while conducting crosstie replacement, track renewal, cable replacement, joint elimination or fastener replacement.

The Fellows thank WMATA for sharing their inspiring story and time with us. It provides many lessons learned for all of us to consider.