



# COLLEGE OF FELLOWS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8, Issue 1

Spring, 2018

## Chair's Corner



It's an honor to follow June Nakamura as Chair of the Fellows Committee. We all want to thank June for her two years of leadership and look forward to her continued active involvement with the Committee. Of June's many accomplishments as Chair, the Fellows Fun Walk which raises money for a local

charity is one of my favorites. We'll hold another one this fall in Las Vegas and need to set another record for fundraising.

I have always been an active proponent of ACEC and have served at the State and National level for many years. The Fellows Committee gives me a way to stay active in ACEC and support its many worthwhile causes. The Committee is composed of a number of long-standing members whose participation and institutional memory is greatly appreciated. We also need new members to participate in our existing programs and bring new ideas to the table. One of my goals is to get new members representing different parts of the country. If you know of someone who may be interested, let us know or invite them to come to one of our Committee meetings.

We also need to continue to work to increase the visibility of the Fellows. This has been ongoing for a number of years—June started a public relations/outreach committee—but we need to continue.

We will be holding our summer Fellows Committee meeting in June in Minneapolis. This will give us the opportunity to plan for the future and set committee assignments for the next year. I believe Minnesota is one of those states that does not currently have any Fellows. There is no reason we shouldn't have Fellows from every state and we need to work to make that happen. We all know there are deserving ACEC members in those states.

Thanks to all of you who attended the College of Fellows Breakfast in Washington, D.C. in April. The speaker, Lance Davis, AIA, LEED was truly outstanding as have been our other speakers in the past. The Fellows Breakfast is a great opportunity to network with other Fellows, learn about ongoing Fellow activities, and hear outstanding speakers. We look forward to seeing more of you next spring in DC.

We are planning some special events for the ACEC Fall Conference in Las Vegas, October 28-31, so plan on attending.

Best Wishes and I look forward to serving you over the next couple of years. Thanks for your support.

Dennis Ford, Chair

**Fellows Committee**

## Raymond Celebrated; CEO Search Continues



ACEC members paid tribute to ACEC President/CEO Dave Raymond's nearly 20-year "reign" at the Council at various Convention functions including the Board of Directors meeting, Opening General Session, Chairmen Emeritus Din-

ner, Engineering Excellence Awards Gala, and Coalition Leaders meeting.

Former ACEC Chair Gregs Thomopoulos, who heads the search committee for Raymond's successor, reported that a selected candidate withdrew from consideration at the last moment. The Search Committee will conduct another round of interviews in May with current and new entrants, with the intent of having a selected candidate by mid-summer. Raymond has agreed to extend his time in office while this process is underway.

## GSA's Davis Reports on Sustainability Progress



Lance Davis

Lance Davis, program manager for Design Excellence Architecture+Sustainability as the General Services Administration (GSA), spoke at the College of Fellows Breakfast at the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. on April 17.

Davis provided an overview of GSA's goals for water and energy efficiency and included several examples of GSA's progress towards sustainability. It's amazing what this organization is doing in restoring old buildings to meet sustainability goals and to design new structures that are nationally recognized for their LEED achievements.

The presentation was very interesting and was extremely well received. The consensus was it would be great to work on these buildings with the GSA.

## Fellows Award Eight 2018 Scholarships

ACEC's Fellows Committee has selected eight engineering students to receive 2018 Scholarships.

Sarah Drummey (University of Nebraska) was awarded the \$10,000 ACEC Scholar of the Year scholarship.

Jacob Moyer (Ferris State University) received the \$10,000 Rina Lee Scholarship.

Michael Tormey (Northeastern University) was awarded the \$5,000 ACEC Life Health Trust Scholarship.

Leah Bectel (Michigan Technological University) received the \$5,000 a/e ProNet Engineering Scholarship.

Austin Eck (Kansas State University) was awarded the \$5,000 Professional Liability Agents Network (PLAN) Scholarship.

Tyler Kleinsasser (South Dakota School of Mines and Technology) received the \$3,000 College of Fellows Scholarship.

Erin Dillmann (Northeastern University) was awarded the \$3,000 Small Firm Council Scholarship.

Kristine Obenour (Florida State University) received the \$4,000 CASE Scholarship.

For more information about ACEC's Awards and Scholarship programs, contact Daisy Nappier at [dnappier@acec.org](mailto:dnappier@acec.org).

## Convention Propels ACEC/PAC Fundraising

ACEC/PAC continues to set fundraising records, with more than \$475,000 raised for the first four months of 2018. Much of that was raised in connection with the recent ACEC Annual Convention, as over \$284,500 was collected for all ACEC-PAC related activities during that week.

National ACEC/PAC Chairman Charlie Gozdziwski of Hardesty & Hanover in New York credits the PAC's current fundraising momentum to the ongoing educational efforts by ACEC national and the respective state Member Organizations on key federal issues impacting ACEC member firms.

With the federal mid-term elections just six months away, ACEC/PAC fundraising success has enabled the PAC to get involved in every single congressional election of significance to ACEC member firms, including several special elections and open seat races.

For more information about ACEC/PAC and ACEC's political programs visit [www.acec.org/advocacy/advocacy-pac/](http://www.acec.org/advocacy/advocacy-pac/) or 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).

### ACEC Fellows Committee

Dennis Ford (Chair)  
Bob Barnett  
Edwin Dedeaux  
Alain Gallet  
June Nakamura  
Lennox Nishimura

Cathy Ritter  
Jane Rozga  
Peter Strub  
Richard Wells  
Doris Willmer  
Daisy Nappier, Staff

## Committee Elects Five New Fellows

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

The new Fellows are: **Philios Angelides**, Alpha Corporation, Sterling, Va.; **Jeffrey Geurian**, CEI Engineering Associates, Bentonville, Ark.; **Tim Groover**, Wiley|Wilson, Lynchburg, Va.; **Donald Sipher**, Froehling & Robertson, Richmond, Va.; and **Terrell Temple**, Engineering Plus, Meridian, Miss.

The newly elected Fellows will be inducted into the College of Fellows at the 2018 ACEC Fall Conference in Las Vegas, October 28-31.

## Political Challenges and Opportunities in 2018

ACEC's ambitious policy agenda for 2018 must contend with the reality of a very contentious political atmosphere in Washington and a re-election cycle that could flip both houses of Congress in November. It's an uphill battle for any organization looking to advance its agenda, but ACEC is focused on a handful of initiatives that have a genuine chance of becoming law this year, which presents real opportunities for our industry.

Unfortunately, don't look for Congress to move a major infrastructure initiative. Instead, Congress is focused on moving smaller pieces of legislation that may become vehicles for larger infrastructure and regulatory policies. The House just passed an FAA reauthorization bill that will boost funding for airport projects and—at ACEC's request—expand the scope of projects subject to federal Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) requirements. The Senate has similar legislation that was passed in committee last year and could go to the floor in June.

The Senate is also poised to start moving the Water Resources Development Act or WRDA, which will authorize new Corps of Engineers water projects, reauthorize the expand financing mechanisms to help water utilities to finance priority projects, and—like the FAA bill in the House—expand QBS to cover drinking water projects funded through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program. The House is expected to move their own bill in June.

## Carlson, Schmidt Decry D.C. Partisanship



In a highly illuminating general session at the 2018 ACEC Convention, FOX News Host Tucker Carlson and Republican Political Strategist Steve Schmidt dissected "these fractious times in American politics," addressing everything from immigration to identity politics to infrastructure investment