COUNCIL OF AMERICAN STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS (CASE)

Summer 2010

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Council of American Structural Engineers

The Strength Behind the Beauty

CASE NEWS

Chair's Update—John Mercer

It has been a busy year for CASE as we continue to tackle the issues that affect your firm. During the past year you should have received Structure Magazine monthly (which features CASE-in-Point) and the CASE Business Practice and Risk management Newsletter bi-weekly, plus new email updates on CASE activities. We have seen a lot of activity over the past fiscal year with two Risk Management Convocations held during the ACEC fall conference in Palm Springs, CA last October, and one with the May 2010 Structures Congress in Orlando, FL. In addition, we offered educational workshops on timely topics prior to our biannual committee meetings. CASE also had their first scholarship recipient: Dan Deery, a Master's student in Civil Engineering (Structures emphasis) from Clemson University.

The CASE committees continued to work very hard on developing beneficial information for CASE members. This included updating CASE contracts, developing new CASE national guidelines, and new CASE risk management tools. Many of these products were already sent to you free of charge as a CASE member benefit and more are on the way.

We continue to make upgrades and improvements to the CASE web site www.acec.org/case, which is full of good information you can use, and includes relevant links to other parts of the construction industry. An additional benefit from the members only site, all of a firm's engineers are given ready access to CASE documents for their immediate use and application as part of your firms' membership in CASE. The CASE Executive Committee welcomes your feedback and participation. Please contact Heather Talbert at htalbert@acec.org with comments and/or suggestions.

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CASE Membership Renewals

Dues invoices have been mailed out to all current CASE members as of July 1st. We are very optimistic about what CASE can do for its members and we hope you feel the same way and choose to continue your membership.

This year when you receive your invoice, there will be a form enclosed to update your contact information so we may have to most current information in our director for all the members.

For more information on CASE membership in general, please contact CASE Executive Director Heather Talbert at htalbert@acec.org or 202-682-4377.

Looking for information to help your firm?

Check out the CASE Members- Only site for guidelines, toolkits and contracts!

CASE Offers Web Seminar Series on AIA C401

Do You Know the Important Changes to Make to AIA'S C-401 Agreement between Architect and Consultant? Now that architects are using C401, it is essential that your project manager is familiar with both C401 and AIA B101- Agreement between Owner and Architect. Learn to work with these and more by attending the following web seminars:

Thur. Oct. 7 -Project Management for Structural Engineers as a Sub-Consultant

Thur. Oct 14 and 28 -Understanding and Using AIA C401, Agreement between Architect & Consultant, AIA (This is being offered in two parts, Part I will be Oct. 14th and Part Two will be Oct. 28th)

Thur. Nov. 11 -Retirement Plans - Which is Best for Your Firm

We have established a special pricing structure for all CASE, SEI and NCSEA members for these seminars. To view more information about these seminars and/or register for these seminars and receive special pricing, go to http://www.acec.org/case/news.cfm

CASE Risk Management Convocation Comes to Puerto Rico This October

The next CASE Risk Management Convocation will take place during the ACEC Fall Conference, October 17–20, 2010, at the El Conquistador Resort in Fajardo, Puerto Rico. For more details and to register go http://www.acec.org/conferences/fall-10/registration.cfm On Oct. 18, the CASE Convocation will include the following confirmed sessions:

Avoiding the Pitfalls in Working with Architects By Using AIA C401

Using Commercial Software Effectively for Building Structural Designs

Lessons Learned from Actual Claims (Key Cases)

Scarborough, Altschuler, Yarema Lead All-Star Line-up of Conference Speakers

A battery of leading industry and national experts will provide market information and critical insights on challenges facing engineering firms at the upcoming 2010 ACEC Fall Conference in Puerto Rico, October 17-20.

Featured speakers include:

"Morning Joe" Scarborough, MSNBC, on national politics

Barry Worthington, executive director of the U.S. Energy Association, on energy markets and opportunities

Geoffrey Yarema, National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission, on the future of transportation funding

Mick Morrissey, Morrissey Goodale, on M&As and consolidation in the engineering industry

James Walsh, CIO of AECOM, on leveraging intranets and social media

Daniel Altschuler, former director of the Arecibo Radio Observatory in Puerto Rico, on life in the universe

For more information on the 2010 ACEC Fall Conference and to register, http://www.acec.org/conferences/fall-10/registration.cfm

Highlights from ACEC Annual Convention

1,000-plus business and policy leaders attended ACEC's Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. – including delegations from China, India, Canada, Australia, Korea and Nigeria; 70 first-time attendees; and representatives of colleague associations including ASCE, ARTBA, FIDIC and NCEES. Highlights included Greg Ip (Economist magazine) who said we are now in a slow, sustained recovery; a debate between Patrick Buchanan (MSNBC) and Eleanor Clift (Newsweek); the signing of a partnership agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; CEO insights from George Pierson of Parsons Brinckerhoff, Len Rodman of Black & Veatch and Bob Uhler of MWH; and a CIO workshop led by chief technology officers from AECOM, Jacobs, Malcolm Pirnie and WSP Flack & Kurtz.

In addition, ACEC's **Grand Conceptor Award** for top engineering achievement of the year was won by HDR for a power facility fueled by onion skins. Grand Awards went to Walter P. Moore, Hatch Mott MacDonald, Jacobs, Magnusson Klemencic, HNTB, Brown and Caldwell, and Michael Baker, Jr.

Chris Poland Recognized for Service to CASE

During the ACEC Annual Convention in D.C. in late April, Chris D. Poland, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Degenkolb Engineers, was recognized for his many years of outstanding service and dedication to CASE.

CASE Summer Meeting Planned for Boston in September

The CASE Summer Meeting will take place on **Thursday and Friday, September 16-17, 2010**, Boston, Massachusetts. On Thursday the CASE committee breakout meetings will be held for the National Guidelines, Contracts, Programs & Communications, and Toolkit committees to continue work on their respective assignments and planning for future CASE products. The CASE Executive Committee will meet on Friday.

A CASE roundtable on structural engineering issues will be held in conjunction with the Boston Association of Structural Engineers (BASE) dinner/meeting on **Wednesday, September 15th** at the MIT Faculty Club. The theme of the evening will be "Risks for Engineers" and the roundtables will focus on the following:

Risk vs. Award with Integrated Project Delivery
BIM Investment versus Payback
Sustainable Design and the Risk for Structural Engineers
How to Collect Your Money Without Getting Sued

CASE committees have been the reason behind CASE's success for over 20 years and they remain vital to CASE's future. As part of the committees' ongoing activities, face-to-face meetings and informal discussions are held twice a year to explore current issues and work on projects like new and revised Risk Management Tools, Guidelines and Contracts, as well as Publications, and Risk Management Convocations. These meetings also allow the various CASE committees to interact across all of CASE's activities. For more information on the CASE committees and CASE in general visit their website at www.acec.org/CASE. Contact CASE Executive Director Heather Talbert (htalbert@acec.org or 202-682-4377) if interested in joining.

Education Opportunities

ACEC Offering New Course on Coping with Changes in Federal Procurement

With the federal government in the midst of implementing the most far-reaching procurement reforms in a decade, ACEC presents a unique program of experts for a timely exploration of up-to-the-minute insights on probable and potential changes in federal procurement practices.

Coping With Key Changes in Federal Procurement and Project Delivery is a wide-ranging discussion of new public safety and security requirements, contractor disclosure rules, performance-based contracting, measureable contract performance standards and the outsourcing versus in-sourcing debate from the government source perspective, as well as ACEC's own procurement experts.

This one-of-a-kind course includes speakers from important awarding agencies, as well as contracting and legal experts who practice in Washington, focusing daily on public acquisition and federal markets. For firms pursuing federal work as well as those contemplating entry into this market, this 1½-day course is of vital importance. To review the agenda for this course or to find additional details for this new course,

go to http://www.acec.org/education/eventDetails.cfm?eventID=1061

SEI Challenges A/E Leaders; New Class Starts in September

In the course of five separate five-day sessions over an 18-month timeframe, ACEC's Senior Executives Institute (SEI) participants acquire new tools and high-level skills and insights to prosper in our changed—and challenging—A/E/C business environment.

Since its inception, SEI has attracted public and private sector engineers and architects from firms of all sizes, locations, and practice specialties, who are drawn to a highly interactive, energetic, exploratory and challenging learning opportunity. Class 16 begins in September 2010.

Course size is limited, and registrations for Class 16 are being accepted. Executives with at least five years' experience managing professional design programs or businesses are invited to register for this highly regarded leadership building opportunity.

For an overview of the full SEI program and to register, visit http://www.acec.org/education/sei/. To inquire, contact Deirdre McKenna at dmckenna@acec.org.

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The Council of American Structural Engineers (CASE) is a national association of structural engineering firms that provides a forum for members to improve the quality of structural engineering through enhancement of business practices, reduced professional liability exposure and increased profitability.

Our mission is to improve the practice of structural engineering by providing business practice resources, improving quality, enhancing management practices and reducing the frequency and severity of claims.

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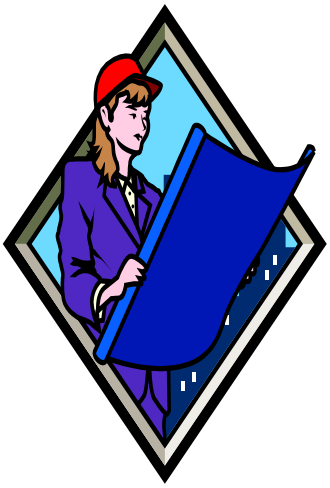
Calendar of Events

Sept. 15-17:	**CASE Summer Meeting** **Boston, MA**
October 17-20:	**CASE Fall Convocation** **(w/ACEC Fall Conference)** **Puerto Rico**

CASE Executive Committee



The following CASE Executive Committee members are here to serve your needs. Please feel free to contact any of the members at their email addresses shown below.

Chair:

John Mercer, Mercer Engineering, P.C., engineer@minot.com

Secretary-Treasurer:

David Mykins, Stroud, Pence and Associates, dmykins@stroudpence.com

Past Chairman:

Chris Poland, Degenkolb Engineers, cpoland@degenkolb.com

Committee Members:

Brian Schmidt (Contracts Cmte. Chair), G. C. Wallace, bschmidt@gcwallace.com

Corey Matsuoka (Toolkit Cmte. Chair), SSFM International, cmatsuoka@ssfm.com

Michael Planer (Programs & Communications Cmte. Chair), Pruitt Eberly Stone, mplaner@pesengineers.com

Andy Rauch (Guidelines Cmte. Chair), BKBM Engineers, Inc., arauch@bkbm.com

David Collings (**Insurance Cmte. Chair**), Ames & Gough, dcollings@amesgough.com

Executive Director:

Heather Talbert, ACEC, htalbert@acec.org