



COLLEGE OF FELLOWS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 5, Issue 1

Spring, 2015

Chairman's Corner



Committee of Fellows
Chairman Miller Love

Thanks to everyone who attended another successful meeting of the College of Fellows at the ACEC Annual Convention in Washington. One of the highlights for me was certainly the presentation by Architect of the Capitol Stephen Ayers at the College of Fellow and Life Fellows Breakfast.

Planning is already underway for the College of Fellows agenda at the ACEC Fall Conference in Boston, October 14-17. In addition to the normal Fellows' activities, the Committee will host the Order of Engineers Ring Ceremony. I urge all Fellows who have not had the opportunity to participate in this meaningful ceremony to make plans to do so.

The Committee of Fellows continues to search for ways to improve and enhance our programs at all ACEC national events. We heard some interesting ideas on achieving this goal at The Fellows Roundtable during the Convention, and the Committee will discuss these suggestions at our summer meeting in Chicago on August 4. If you have any suggestions on how to improve the experience of being an ACEC Fellow, please forward them to Daisy Nappier.

The Committee continues to consider different options for making Fellows available to mentor young and emerging leaders in our industry. One method would be to publish on the ACEC website a list of Fellows who are interested in being mentors. Emerging leaders at Member Firms could then contact individual Fellows based on their area of expertise and locations. If you have any input to offer, please contact Daisy or me.

Again, I would like to thank the members of the Committee of Fellows for their dedicated efforts to enhance and improve the experience of being an ACEC Fellow. I'm looking forward to seeing each of you in Boston.

Miller Love, Chair
Committee of Fellows

ACEC Committee of Fellows

Miller Love (Chair)	June Nakamura
Everett Cowan	Lennox Nishimura
Edwin Dedeaux	Cathy Ritter
Dennis Ford	Dick Wells
Edward Mulcahy	Doris Willmer
Anthony Mumphy	Daisy Nappier, Staff

Architect of the Capitol Addresses Fellows



Architect of the Capitol Stephen Ayers spoke at the College of Fellows and Life Fellows Breakfast during the ACEC Convention in Washington, providing an insider's perspective into the ongoing renovations to the Capitol Dome and surrounding federal buildings.

Merrick's Christie Takes ACEC Chair's Gavel

Merrick & Company Chairman Ralph Christie took the gavel as 2015-2016 ACEC Chairman at the ACEC Convention, succeeding Dick Wells of Kleinfelder.

New members of the 2015-2016 Executive Committee are: Chair-elect Peter Strub, senior vice president, TranSystems Corp.; Lee Cammack, president/CEO, J-U-B Engineers; Philip Houser, principal, Alfred Benesch & Company; and Gregg Spagnolo, vice president, AECOM. ACEC/Virginia Executive Director Nancy Israel will serve as the NAECE representative.

They join current members: Harvey Floyd, EVP, KCI Technologies; Lauren Evans, president/CEO Pinyon Environmental; Randall Neuhaus, president/CEO, S&ME; Mitch Simpler, partner, Jaros, Baum & Bolles; along with ACEC President/CEO Dave Raymond, and Chair Ralph Christie.

Report from the ACEC Annual Convention

The 2015 Annual Convention and Legislative Summit at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C. in April, attracted a record turnout of 1,400 members and vendors. This record turnout of "Citizen Lobbyists" promoted infrastructure investment, tax reforms, and other key ACEC priorities during Hill visits to offices of each state's representatives in both the House and Senate. In a speech during the Legislative Briefing, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK), Chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee, complimented ACEC on its "positive influence" with Congress.

The Opening General Session featured General Stanley A. McChrystal (retired) the former Commander

of U.S. and International Forces in Afghanistan. His presentation on “Lessons in Leadership” was outstanding and well received by the ACEC members. The luncheon speaker was CNN Chief Washington Correspondent Jake Tapper, whose presentation on “Political Polarization: Prospects for Progress” was extremely timely and insightful. For more information on the ACEC Convention, see the April 29 issue of *Last Word* on the ACEC website.

Order of the Engineer at Fall Conference

At the upcoming Fall Conference in Boston, the College of Fellows has arranged for interested ACEC Members to be inducted into the Order of the Engineer, a national organization dedicated to “upholding the standards and dignity of the engineering profession.”

The Order holds induction ceremonies across the country at which graduate and registered engineers are invited to accept the *Obligation of the Engineer* and the stainless steel membership ring. The Order is not a membership organization and there are never any meetings to attend or dues to pay.

The induction at the Fall Conference will be conducted by the National Board of Governors of the Order of the Engineer. We will share additional information about the ceremony and how to participate as it comes available.

ACEC/PAC Fundraising Momentum Builds

Having raised a record \$835,000 for ACEC/PAC in 2014, ACEC members are continuing to demonstrate strong support for the association’s key political program in 2015, raising more than \$450,000 through the first 5 months of the year. ACEC/PAC is on pace to meet the ACEC Strategic Goal of raising \$1 million annually by the end of 2015.

National ACEC/PAC Chairman Chris Robertson of Shannon and Wilson in Seattle, Wash., credits the surge of contributions with increased awareness among ACEC members on the financial impact that federal legislation has on their firms. “Transportation infrastructure, water and energy issues are now reaching critical mass on Capitol Hill,” he said. “We need Senators and Congressman who understand the importance of investing now for those projects and who will support that effort. ACEC/PAC works to elect those legislators to Congress, and help keep them in Congress until we find solutions to these growing problems.”

For more information about ACEC/PAC, contact ACEC Executive Director for Political Affairs Greg Knopp at gknopp@acec.org or ACEC/PAC Director Cara Gavagan at cgavagan@acec.org.

Cautious Optimism for ACEC’s Agenda in 2015

On Capitol Hill, 2015 is starting out better than 2014. Bipartisan majorities voted to authorize the Keystone Pipeline and promote energy efficiency in public and private buildings. Despite the subsequent veto, Congress demonstrated that it could engage actually move major legislation. The House and Senate also agreed on a budget blueprint for 2016, which should restore order to the appropriations process, although tight spending caps will induce some legislative battles.

The House and Senate energy committees—and Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz—are developing comprehensive energy bills, with votes expected this summer. The emphasis will be on developing America’s energy resources in a responsible way, modernizing the nation’s energy infrastructure, and making regulatory changes necessary to allow good projects to move forward.

Congress continues to fall short in one critical area: funding infrastructure. Congress must address two infrastructure bills this summer: Reauthorization of MAP-21, which governs federal programs funding road and transit projects; and FAA reauthorization. In both cases, increased funding is the objective for ACEC.

ACEC is joining with a large coalition of contractors, business groups, unions and others to engage in a sustained grassroots campaign to pressure Congress to act. Congress might be persuaded to make tough choices if they hear from their constituents that America’s infrastructure is a critical, national priority worthy of additional investment. We need help from ACEC members in this effort.

The potential is there for making 2015 a great year for the engineering industry. Congress is focused on the right issues – roads and transit projects, airport improvements, and expanding energy markets – but we have work to do to make it happen. Let’s get it done.

Fellows Cruise During The Fall Conference

The College of Fellows will be hosting a cruise through Boston harbor aboard the Lexington during ACEC Fall Conference, October 14-17.

The Lexington is a custom designed 75’ authentic, two-level, paddle-wheel boat with exposed beams, gleaming hardwood and a classic nautical striped awning.

Guests will enjoy stunning views of the Boston skyline and the bustling fish pier as they mingle with colleagues aboard the elegant Lexington. Registration details will follow.

