ACEC Chapter Awards
2014 – 2015

ACEC California
Los Angeles County Chapter
September 28, 2015

Christian Anger
Membership Director
ACEC California Office
1303 J Street, Ste. 450
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter
2014-2015 Chapter Awards Submission

Dear Mr. Anger:

The ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter (ACEC-LA) continues to strive to be the most effective chapter in the state by supporting statewide issues and promoting our own local issues. The Chapter has gained influence in the industry and has succeeded in uniting its members to help support statewide legislation, local legislation, business opportunities, emerging technologies and industry trends.

Our Chapter’s success is a result of the active support of our local members. We have 22 firms represented on our local board. They are made up of a cross-section of small, medium and large firms whose representatives work monthly to make our Chapter successful. In addition to the firms represented on the board, other member firms fill committee positions such as our agency liaison committees. These efforts have paid off this year just like they have in previous years. Our submittal showcases the results by highlighting the specifics of our legislative activities, program successes, influence on local agencies through our liaison committees, deep involvement in our student outreach program, efforts to connect our members with their potential clients, support of the state and national ACEC organizations, and support of our small business members.

The Chapter is dedicated to initiating programs and activities that will secure a new level of achievement in the industry. This will make membership in ACEC a valuable asset for existing members and encourage others to join us. Central to retaining a mission and vision that is consistent with the state and national organizations, we continue to enjoy the benefit of engaging Kelly Asper, our executive director. Kelly works closely with the Chapter’s Board of Directors to ensure we execute our plan and serve our member firms. The attached submission provides a detailed discussion of the Chapter’s accomplishments and activities over the past year. We very much appreciate your consideration of the ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter for the 2014-2015 Chapter Award. If you have any questions, please contact our current Chapter President Travis Deane by phone at (818) 539-8409 or by email at RTD@shanwil.com.

Sincerely,

Travis Deane
ACEC-LA President, 2015–2016
Chapter Awards
July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Official Entry Form for All Chapters

DEADLINE: September 28, 2015

CHAPTER NAME: LA County Chapter
CHAPTER PRESIDENT: Travis Deane
NUMBER OF CHAPTER FIRMS: 86
NUMBER OF CHAPTER FTE'S: 1775

SECTION 1
(ACEC California provided the information below)

1. Chapter Firms net membership change: (10 pts) -1.15%

2. Number of Chapter Individuals serving on ACEC California committees: (10 pts) 14

3. Number of committee calls attended by a Chapter representative out of total number of calls possible:
   a. Membership Development Committee: (5 pts) 7/9 = 78%
   b. Grassroots Committee: (5 pts) 9/10 = 90%
   c. Chapter Officers Calls: (5 pts) 3/4 = 75%

4. Number of State Directors attending ACEC California Board of Director Meetings out of total number of State Director representation possible: (15 pts) 20/20 = 100%

5. Number of Chapter Members attending the ACEC California Annual Conference: (10 pts) 10

6. Number of Chapter Members attending the State Legislative Visit Day: (10 pts) 16

7. Number of Chapter Members attending ACEC National Legislative Summit Day: (5 pts) 5

8. Total number of Call to Action Letters submitted from your chapter: (10 pts) 9

9. Percentage of Federal PAC National Goal reached by Chapter (based on prior calendar year): (10 pts) 83%

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Please complete the section below for your chapter.

Chapter Representative Completing Application: Kelly Asper

Phone Number: (562) 439-3950 Email: office@acec-la.org

10. Average number of members represented at Chapter meetings: (10 pts) 124

11. Number of local Chapter match fundraising events for legislative candidates: (5 pts) 0 (per the State organization’s direction)

12. Does your Chapter have a scholarship program? If so, how much money was awarded to students in the last program year?: (10 pts) Yes, the Chapter has a scholarship program. For 2014-2015, we awarded $30,000 in scholarships to seven students.

ESSAY QUESTION (30 pts)
On a separate sheet (2 pages max) please provide an essay that describes how your Chapter has addressed the following:
- Successfully promoted the industry locally.
- Enhanced public awareness of services provided by member firms through student outreach, PR, recruitment efforts and special events.
- How your Chapter has participated in improving business practices, i.e. involvement in environmental enhancements such as Earth Day or LEED.
- How many times in the last program year your Chapter has met with local elected officials and local appointed officials.
- Does your Chapter have an independent website or maintain the Chapter’s dedicated page on the ACEC CA website? How often is your website updated?
The ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter (ACEC-LA) has been successful in promoting the industry and enhancing public awareness of services through student outreach, public relations activities, special events, membership recruitment efforts, recognition of the industry’s deserving members, and sponsorship opportunities.

**PROMOTING INDUSTRY LOCALLY**

**Monthly Luncheons.** The chapter has a thriving monthly luncheon program that brings owners together with the consulting engineering community. Owners present their upcoming capital improvement and expansion programs and contracting opportunities. This past year we hosted nine monthly luncheon events featuring speakers from owner organizations such as the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and others. Our June 2014 event featuring Col. Kimberly Colloton, PMP, of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was co-sponsored by the Society of American Military Engineers.

**Legislative Achievement Award.** Presented at the Chapter’s Annual Banquet, this award recognizes outstanding leadership in promoting public infrastructure and the consulting engineering community. This year’s award went to Senator Fran Pavley representing Senate District 27. Senator Pavley’s leadership in the Senate helped secure passage of Proposition 1, the water bond, in 2014.

**Paper Yacht Event.** ACEC-LA sponsored this Psomas event that included a silent auction and raised almost $12,000 for Budokan of LA, a planned community health, education and recreation resource of California Hospital Medical Center.

**Cal Poly Pomona Keynote Speaker.** ACEC-LA’s 2014-2015 president Tom Kim represented the Chapter as Keynote Speaker at the Cal Poly Pomona Achievement Awards in 2014. His speech promoted the importance of collaborating with owner agencies to develop innovative solutions for today’s infrastructure problems.

**Golf Tournament.** In March, the Chapter held its annual Charity Golf Tournament at the Virginia Country Club in Long Beach. It was attended by 120 members and non-members, and raised $18,000 for the scholarship fund.

**ENHANCED PUBLIC AWARENESS**

**Student Outreach**

Committed to offering opportunities for the next generation of engineers and surveyors, ACEC-LA promotes student education through scholarships and internships.

**National Engineers Week (E-Week).** With the help of our member firms, 54 presenters made 77 presentations to 4,000 high school students from more than 30 participating schools as part of the “Become an Engineer” campaign. Rubina Chaudhary spearheaded the effort that included well-attended training sessions and presentations from 25 firms and six public agencies.

**Scholarships.** Established in 2005, the Chapter’s Scholarship Fund honors qualified engineering undergraduate and graduate students attending Los Angeles County colleges and universities. Each student demonstrates a high level of academic achievement from an accredited engineering program; participates in professional associations; participates in programs and internships directly related to the practice of engineering; and provides commendations and endorsements from faculty. Seven scholarships totaling $30,000 were awarded. These men and women surpassed the criteria, and the Chapter is excited to assist them in continuing their education and impact on society.

**High School Internships.** ACEC-LA has a strong and continued involvement in the California Student Outreach Program (CalSOP). The program is focused on reaching out to high school students, encouraging them to pursue higher education and inspiring them to become engineers.

**Public Relations**

The Chapter maintains positive public relations with the membership, the consultant community and owner agencies in the LA County area by providing opportunities for networking, professional development and relationship building.

**Recruitment Efforts**

With outstanding membership growth and participation, the Chapter’s recruiting efforts include welcoming non-members at monthly luncheons and member retention through successful programming. Our success is evidenced by event attendance growth from 30 program attendees per event in 2005, to an average of more than 120 attendees at each of this year’s events with a total yearly attendance of 1,118.

**Special Events**

**Annual Banquet.** The Chapter’s Annual Achievement Awards Banquet in May provided 244 members and guests the opportunity to enjoy an evening of networking and celebration. Awards presented include Legislator of the Year, Engineering Achievement, Client of the Year, Innovator of the Year and Scholarships.

**CalMentor.** Occurring every other year, the CalMentor event recognizes mentor firms’ contributions to the industry in Caltrans Districts 7, 8 and 12. This past year’s ceremony featured a...
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keynote talk by Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty and talks by other Caltrans district directors.

IMPROVING BUSINESS PRACTICES

Insurance Seminar
In October, we sponsored a special seminar, led by Stephanie Wagner, about the insurance benefits of the ACEC National Trusts.

Small Business Committee
The Chapter’s Small Business Committee was established last year to help our small businesses maximize the benefits of ACEC membership. This year the committee built on its mission by hosting small business roundtables aimed at developing partnerships and improving business practices between small and large businesses. The committee also held various workshops, such as the ACEC Insurance Trust seminar, focused on tools to assist small firms. The committee’s goals for next year include expanding the roundtable discussions to include industry leaders and broadening the focus on collaboration.

Liaison Committees
The Chapter’s Liaison Committees provide a dialogue forum for members and owners including the City of Los Angeles, the Port of Long Beach, Port of Los Angeles, Caltrans District 7 and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Initiatives include discussing current and future owner design and construction programs. Highlights include:

- **City of Los Angeles** – Meetings were held to discuss the Bureau of Engineering reorganization, new NavigateLA, new smart street initiatives, 30-year $1 billion citywide sidewalk improvements, and updates on city convention center improvements and Parker Center replacement.
- **Port of Long Beach (POLB)** – Quarterly meetings were attended by about a dozen firms to engage with POLB leadership in discussions on upcoming procurements, organizational updates, and technical challenges faced by POLB. Senior executives from the program management, design and construction management divisions were regular participants at the meetings.
- **Caltrans District 7** – ACEC/Caltrans District 7 Professional Liaison Committee meetings held every other month are attended by up to 25 large and small member firms. Discussions addressed upcoming procurements, changes in the consultant selection process, reports on statewide activities and events and updates on the CalSOP and CalMentor programs.
- **Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority** – The ACEC/Metro Professional Liaison Committee met every two months. Meetings were attended by 30 member firms to engage with Metro leadership including officials from the transit, highway, public-private partnership (P3) and regional rail departments.

State Committee Participation
Our Chapter members are active in ACEC state and national efforts that enhance our industry. ACEC-LA Chapter members participate in 18 State committees including Professional Surveyors, Strategic Planning, Business Management and Insurance, Grassroots and Legislative Action committees.

MEETING WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS
The Chapter met with numerous local elected and appointed officials over the 2014-2015 year and documented 17 meetings with 25 public officials:

- Fran Pavley, State Senator
- Don Sepulveda, Metro Executive Officer
- David Mieger, Metro Executive Officer
- Sam Mayman, Metro Executive Officer
- Stephanie Wiggins, Metro Executive Officer
- Brian Pennington, Metro Executive Officer
- Linda Wright, Metro Executive Officer
- Cris Liban, Metro Deputy Executive Officer
- Abdullah Ansari, Metro Deputy Executive Officer
- Joe Slangrup, Port of Long Beach Chief Executive Officer
- Michael Sarullo, City of Los Angeles Environmental Engineering Division Engineer
- Tobin Tellers, Metropolitan Water District, Capital Improvement Project Manager
- Gary Lee Moore, City of Los Angeles, City Engineer
- Ted Allen, City of Los Angeles, Deputy City Engineer
- Steve Chen, City of Los Angeles, Street Program Manager
- Jim Treadway, City of Los Angeles, Bridge Program Manager
- Marty Adams, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, Senior Assistant General Manager
- Malcolm Dougherty, Caltrans, Director
- Carrie Bowen, Caltrans District 7, District Director
- Duncan McIntosh, Caltrans District 7, Deputy District Director
- Shaun Sharestani, Port of Los Angeles, Chief Harbor Engineer
- Sean Gamette, Port of Long Beach, Chief Harbor Engineer
- Jacob Williams, County of Los Angeles Public Works, Assistant Director
- Steve Lantz, South Bay Council of Governments Transportation Director
- Terry Dipple, Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments Executive Director

WEBSITE MAINTENANCE
The LA Chapter maintains its own website at acec-la.org. It is updated on a weekly basis.