

THE FIRST WORD

April, 2013

ODOT / ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering Conference Set for May 12th

The 12th Annual ODOT / ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering Conference will be held on Thursday, May 9th in Oklahoma City. The Magnuson Convention Center, I-40 and Meridian, will again be the host location.

Following last year's record attendance, we have put together another outstanding program, and hope that this year's attendance will be even larger than last years.

Registration will open at 8:00am, with the formal program beginning at 9:00am.

The morning program will be entitled, **Ethics for Decision Making** and will be presented by Dr. Eric Cupp. Those attending last year's Conference will remember Dr. Cupp, and he was such an overwhelming hit, we decided to bring him back for an encore presentation.

Maybe, rather than "Ethics for Decision Making," this should be called, "*Making Tough Decisions and Still Getting Some Sleep.*"

Ethics sounds boring right? Well it can be. But with Dr. Cupp doing it, you will love ethics!

Find out what your "filters" are through which you pour decisions. Discover if you are a formalist or a utilitarian. Also discover how to take yourself or a large group through the toughest of decisions in an orderly, efficient and time-saving manner. You will even learn when to make exceptions to rules!

Lunch will follow Dr. Cupp's program, and will feature the new Director of Transportation, Mike Patterson. And, while he is "officially" retired, Secretary of Transportation Gary Ridley will also be in attendance.

As always, the afternoon will feature "breakout" sessions where specific topics can be discussed in length and depth.

One of the afternoon sessions will include a "primer" program dealing with the state and federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.

Additionally, one of the breakouts will be an "Open Forum" session with the Senior Staff from ODOT. This "open forum" will be an "ask anything; say anything" opportunity for you get answers to any of those questions you've been wanting to ask, or, to "vent" to the ODOT leadership.

If you any to ask a question but remain "anonymous," we will have comment cards available throughout the day which you can turn in prior to the sessions.

Registration information for the Partnering Conference is being finalized, and should be out to all members and consultants by April 8th. Watch your e-mail and register early!

We look forward to seeing you May 9th at the 12th Annual ODOT / ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering Conference!!!!

Membership Update Forms Mailed To All Firms

The annual Membership Update forms were mailed to the "key" principal of all member firms the end of last week.

As your firm's 2013-14 annual dues are based on the number of employees you report on this form, we ask that you complete the form and return it to ACEC OKLAHOMA no later than **Friday, April 12th.**

2013 ACEC Professional Liability Insurance Survey Open Through April 12th

Every year, ACEC's Risk Management Committee conducts a survey of member firms regarding their professional liability insurance, claims experience, and the impact of the potential threat of litigation. This information is crucial to determining the professional liability insurance landscape which ACEC member firms must face, and it also provides important data for ACEC's tort reform efforts in Congress. The 2013 Professional Liability Insurance Survey of Member Firms for FY 2012 will run from Friday, March 29, 2013, through COB Friday, April 12, 2013.

It is critical that we receive only one set of survey responses from each member firm. Therefore, we ask that only the key principal, risk manager, or another member of the firm designated by the key principal fill out this survey.

For your convenience, the complete set of survey questions in "worksheet" format can be downloaded from this link: <http://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/ACEC/attach/2013ACECPIMemberSurveyQuestionsFinal0328.pdf>. To take the online survey itself, see below. PLEASE DO NOT SEND THE "WORKSHEET" TO ACEC.

In order to preserve the confidential nature of this survey, the response form does not require your firm's name or other contact information.

Member firms that respond to this survey can receive a free copy of the complete results on request. To receive your

firm's copy, please send a request by separate email with the subject line "2013 ACECPLI Survey Results" to Charles Kim at ckim@acec.org. For your convenience, you can cut and paste the following text:

"This is to confirm that my company is a member firm of ACEC and has taken part in the 2013 ACEC Professional Liability Insurance Survey of Member Firms for FY 2012. Please send our free copy of the survey results to my email address."

When the survey results are completed, a free copy will be sent to the email address you provide. The complete results will also be available for purchase through the ACEC online bookstore.

TO TAKE THE SURVEY, PLEASE CLICK HERE: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ACECPLISURVEY2013>

If you have any difficulties with the survey, please send an email to ckim@acec.org or contact Charles Kim at (202) 682-4344.

Once again, the deadline for submissions is "close of business" Friday, April 12, 2013. The results are scheduled to be compiled and a summary published in the July/August 2013 edition of Engineering Inc.

Please accept our thanks in advance for taking the time to participate in this survey.

A DAY WITHOUT BUSINESS - "MAKE A PLAN!" WORKSHOP, TULSA PARTNERS, INC.

When the unthinkable happens, do you have a plan to respond and to lead your business through the crisis? One in four small businesses closed by a disaster never re-open. The "Make A Plan!" Workshop will assist business owners and administrators in developing their own customized business continuity plans to ensure they don't become part of that statistic.

Building on the successful 2012 A Day Without Business Summit, this four hour workshop will walk you through the steps you will take to make an effective business continuity plan. Tailored to the needs of small businesses and nonprofits, experts from the fields of continuity planning, information technology, insurance, finance, and disaster recovery will be available to assist you in the development of your plan.



A DAY
without BUSINESS

Hosted by the nonprofit Tulsa Partners, Inc., *A Day Without Business - "Make A Plan!" Workshop* will take place on Thursday, April 18, 2013 from 8 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at State Farm Insurance, 12222 State Farm Blvd., Tulsa OK 74146. Registration is open through April 15 online at www.tulsapartners.org or by phone at 918-632-0044. The cost for the four hour workshop is \$35, and space is limited.

Welcome New Members

ACEC OKLAHOMA welcomes three new members to the Council.

UTLEY & ASSOCIATES, LLC, is a three-person Civil and Hydraulic Engineering firm. Marc Utley heads the Oklahoma City based firm.

ENGINEERING, INC., is an Edmond based three-person firm. Led by Shawn Thompson, the firm provides Engineering Inspections for commercial/residential properties for damage determination.

JAMES H. STEWART, P.E. specializes in HVAC System Design, Energy Analysis, Noise Control and Treatment of Acoustically Sensitive Spaces, and Plant Design. Jim recently retired from PSA Consulting Engineers, and is a past president of ACEC OKLAHOMA.

We welcome all three firms to the ACEC OKLAHOMA membership, and look forward to having them as active members of the Council.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board/Membership Meeting, April 18th, Tulsa

ACEC OKLAHOMA's April Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18th at the Doubletree Hotel Downtown in Tulsa, beginning at 5:00pm.

Following a short business meeting and dinner, our guest speaker will be Tulsa County Commissioner John Smaligo. An Owasso native, Smaligo served three terms in the Oklahoma House of Representatives before giving up his House seat to seek the District #1 seat on the Tulsa County Commission. He was the first Republican ever to be elected to the Commission from District #1.

Registration information has been sent to all ACEC OKLAHOMA members. Please complete the form and return it to ACEC OKLAHOMA as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing everyone on April 18th!

Annual ACEC Midwest States Convention Set for St. Thomas, USVI, June 5-12

Registration, Reservation, and Program information for the ACEC Midwest States Conference has been sent to all members, and is also available on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website....www.acecok.org.

Every four years, the ACEC Midwest States Convention (Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas), is held in the U.S. Virgin Islands. This year's Conference will be held on the beautiful island of St. Thomas at the Sugar Bay Resort: <http://www.sugarbayresortandspa.com>

The final program is complete and here are some details:

- ◆ Wednesday, June 5 and Wednesday, June 12 are travel days. Roundtrip airfare from OKC or Tulsa to St. Thomas is running in the \$630 range depending on airline and schedule.

- ◆ Great programs have been scheduled including:

- * **International Consulting...***Gregs G. Thomopoulos, ACEC Chairman-Elect, Chairman & CEO of Stanley Consultants*

- * **Failure to Act Study & Analysis...***Steven Landau, Vice President & Director of Transportation & Development, Economic Development & Research Group*

- * **Envision - The Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure's Rating Tool...***Terry F. Neimeyer, PE, BCEE, FACEC, ENV SP, ISI Board Member, Chairman and CEO, KCI Technologies, Inc.*

- ◆ Room rates will range from \$180 per night for Resort View to \$240 per night for Ocean View

"PASSPORT - Passports are NOT required as St. Thomas is a United States Territory. HOWEVER, if the group takes a day-trip, or if you go "on your own," to the British Virgin Islands, a Passport WILL BE REQUIRED!

To make hotel reservations, call the Sugar Bay Resort & Spa at **1-800-927-7100** and ask for the **ACEC 2013 rate**. The block of rooms will be released after **April 17th**, so make your reservations now!

It's going to be a great meeting in a GREAT location, and we look forward to having you there!

President's Report

April, 2013
David Raymond, ACEC President

With projected attendance at our Annual Convention later this month at an all-time high – more than 1,400 – this is hopefully a good indication that our economy is on the upswing. Also, ACEC/PAC fundraising is running ahead of last year. Kudos to ACEC/Wisconsin and ACEC/Indiana for having already met their 2013 goals. These funds are critical to advancing our agenda in Congress including infrastructure funding and energy which will be top issues at our Convention.

The Convention will feature highly-rated business sessions and noted speakers such as NBC News White House Correspondent Chuck Todd and Fortune Senior Editor Geoff Colvin, but we'll also have a chance to have some fun! The Capitol Steps are back again with their hilarious antics; and if you haven't been to our black tie Engineering Excellence Gala before ("the Academy Awards of the Engineering Industry"), you've really been missing something special. For more information and to register, visit: <http://www.acec.org>

General

- ACEC/Wisconsin and ACEC/Indiana became the first states to make their ACEC/PAC fundraising goals for 2013.
- Hosted at ACEC three new Members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee: Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ), Rep. Scott Perry (R-PA), and Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV).
- Co-hosted fundraising events for Congressmen Cory Gardner (R-CO), Richard Neal (D-MA), Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Congressman Dan Lipinski (D-IL).

Government Advocacy

- Achieved increased highway and transit funding to full MAP-21 levels in the final Continuing Resolution for the remainder of the 2013 fiscal year.
- Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which includes a number of ACEC priorities, including accelerated project delivery, innovative financing alternatives, and a levee safety program.
- Senior House and Senate committee staff briefed members of ACEC's Environment and Energy Committee on water and energy initiatives; key EPA and Department of Energy officials briefed on hydraulic fracturing and other pending regulatory issues.
- International Committee met with House and Senate committee staff to press for greater engineering involvement in planning, oversight, and performance of U.S. funded overseas infrastructure projects.
- Initiated research effort with DBIA, AIA and AGC to compare the costs and impacts of one-step versus two-step design-build.
- Provided legislative updates in briefings for state organizations in Oklahoma, Missouri, Virginia and Maryland.

Business Resources

- The 2013 EJCDC Construction Series of 23 documents are now on sale in the [ACEC Bookstore](#), which includes the best-selling EJCDC document (*C-700, General Conditions*) as well as three new documents: *An Advertisement for Bids, Bidders Qualifications Statement*, and *Construction Subcontract*.