

THE FIRST WORD

May, 2012

Record Crowd at 11th Annual ODOT/ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering Conference

Over 400 ODOT, FHWA, and OTA staff and Consultants attended the 11th Annual ODOT/ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering Conference, Thursday, April 26th, making it the largest crowd in the event's history.

Attendees were treated to an informative and entertaining look at "Conflict Management" by Dr. Eric Cupp. Cupp's program got the crowd involved and truly set the stage for the rest of the day through his light-hearted, yet serious, take on how best to handle the day-to-day situations which everyone faces at both work and at home.

Secretary of Transportation Gary Ridley addressed the gathering following lunch, providing a review and insight on both

the state of the Federal Highway funding debate in Congress as well as the Oklahoma Legislature's action on increased funding for both the Governor's proposed Bridge plan and the Transportation Fund.

Breakout sessions were held in the afternoon session, with Gary Evans leading an indepth look at the Governor's Bridge program; David Streb discussing the Consultant Submission & Selection process; and, George Raymond and Mike Vahabzadegan discussing Construction Management issues.

Overall, it was a great program, and our thanks to everyone who attended this record-breaking Conference.



Secretary of Transportation
Gary Ridley



Part of the crowd of over 400 Consultants and ODOT Staff attending the 11th Annual Partnering Conference.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Leadership Discusses Critical Issues with Oklahoma Congressional Delegation

ACEC OKLAHOMA Chairman of the Board Stacy Loeffler led an ACEC OKLAHOMA delegation to Capitol Hill during the just concluded ACEC National Convention in Washington, D.C. Joining Loeffler on the Hill were Vice Chairman Chuck Mitchell, Immediate Past Chairman Jim Benson, and President/CEO Jim Sullins.

The group had face-to-face meetings with Congressman James Lankford (pictured at right), Congressman John Sullivan, and Congressman Tom Cole.



ACEC OKLAHOMA Vice Chairman Chuck Mitchell, Chairman Stacy Loeffler, and Past Chair Jim Benson on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol.

The group also briefly met with Congressman Frank Lucas. In addition to these meetings, the ACEC OKLAHOMA delegation had very fruitful meetings with key staff members for Senators Jim Inhofe and Tom Coburn and Congressman Dan Boren.



(L-R) Chuck Mitchell, Congressman James Lankford, Jim Benson, Stacy Loeffler

Issues discussed included the critical need for a long-term Highway Funding solution; continued funding of the Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water acts; and the need for a national energy policy incorporating all forms of energy production and transmission.

Prior to the visits on Capitol Hill, the Oklahoma group was involved in the annual ACEC Convention activities. National Director Jim Stewart and Chair-Elect Alan Soltani participated in the ACEC Board of Directors meeting, and the entire group sat in on a variety of educational programs as well as presentations from various industry and political leaders including former Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour and former Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell.

SMPS "Spring Training" Set for Stillwater, May 8th

SMPS has extended an invitation to ACEC OKLAHOMA members to join them in Stillwater for SMPS Oklahoma's annual Spring Training on Tuesday, May 8th.

The Spring Training Conference is one of SMPS Oklahoma's most anticipated events of the year. If you are looking to get your organization's name in front of Oklahoma's principles, marketing and business development professionals in the architecture, engineering, construction, real estate and development industry, this is the place to be.

The Spring Training will be held at the Wes Watkins Center on the Oklahoma State University campus beginning with registration at 9:30am with the program set to begin at 10:00am.

Seminars will include: **Get Out of B.E.D. (Blame, Excuses and Denial) Change Your Outlook, Alter Your Outcomes; Assessing The Market To Improve Your Backlog - FMI's Forecasts & Trends; and, BD (Business Development) Live!**

Registration fees are \$65 for SMPS Members, and \$85 for Non-Members.

Visit www.SMPSOKLAHOMA.org for the complete agenda and registration information.

Leadership For Engineers Class #3 Wraps-Up

Class #3 has concluded ACEC OKLAHOMA's critically acclaimed "Leadership For Engineers" program for 2012.

During the 6 session program over 8 weeks, the Class met in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Stillwater, and were exposed to virtually all aspects of the management side of consulting engineering.

Graduates from the 2012 Class are:

- Brandon Wall, Wall Engineering, Hugo
- Scott Rodehaver, Wallace Engineering, Tulsa
- Elli Johannson, Crafton Tull, Tulsa
- Ryan Smith, Poe & Associates, Tulsa
- Nic Millard, SAIC, Tulsa

- Chris Hill, Meshek & Associates, Tulsa
- Doug Gleen, Cobb Engineering, Tulsa
- Michael Wilson, C.H. Guernsey & Co., Oklahoma City
- Jason Langhammer, Garver, Tulsa
- Omeed Mollaian, MacArthur Associated Consultants, Oklahoma City
- David Cross, Tetra Tech, Tulsa
- Aaron Peck, Guy Engineering Services, Tulsa
- David Neuhauser, C P & Y, Oklahoma City
- Hollis Allen, Walter P Moore, Tulsa
- Todd Cochran, Schemmer, Oklahoma City

Class #4 will begin forming in late summer when Registration and Program information will be sent to all member firms. So, begin identifying your firm's candidate now for the next ACEC OKLAHOMA "Leadership For Engineers" class.



Leadership For Engineers Class of 2012: Front Row (L-R): Brandon Wall, Scott Rodehaver, Elli Johannson, Ryan Smith, Nic Millard, Chris Hill, Doug Glenn. Second Row: Michael Wilson, Jason Langhammer, Omeed Mollaian, David Cross, Aaron Peck, David Neuhauser, Hollis Allen, Todd Cochran

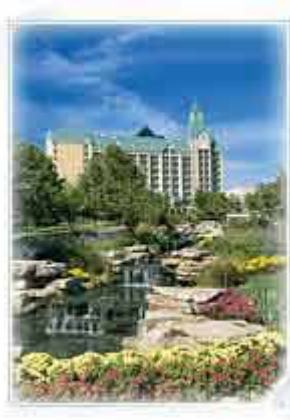


Leadership For Engineers "Senior Leaders Roundtable" features ACEC OKLAHOMA Past Chairmen (L-R) Mike Arand, Steve Ford, Mike Homan, Julie Guy



Members of the Leadership For Engineers Class of 2012 relax during an evening of food, fun, and bowling following a long day of classwork.

ACEC Midwest States Conference. May 31st - June 2nd, Branson



The Chateau on the Lake will play host to the annual ACEC Midwest States Conference, a joint meeting of ACEC organizations in Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas.

This is always an outstanding meeting and a great opportunity to get to know your fellow consultants from the other states. There will be great educational programs as well as a variety of social events where you can network and make new friends.

Registration information has been sent to all member firms, and now is the time to make your hotel reservations. To make your reservations, call the Chateau toll-free at **1-888-333-5253**, and be sure to say you are with the "ACEC Midwest States Conference." **Rooms will go fast, so don't delay!**

Here's a look at the agenda for the Conference:

Thursday, May 31

6:00pm-7:00pm Welcoming Cocktail Reception

Friday, June 1

7:30am-8:45am Breakfast & Program on
Small Business Size Standards

9:00am-12:00pm CEO Roundtable Seminar

1:30pm-4:00pm Annual Meetings of Each State

5:30pm-8:00pm Dinner & Show at Dixie Stampede

Saturday, June 2

7:30am-8:30am Breakfast & Networking Roundtable

8:45am-10:15am Understanding Ethics for the Design
Professional Seminar

10:20am-11:50am Cloud Computing & Impact on Business

12:00pm Golf - John Daly's Murder Rock

6:30pm-10:00pm Reception/Banquet/Casino Night

We look forward to seeing you at the ACEC Midwest State Conference, May 31-June 2, in Branson.... YOU DON'T WANT TOMISSIT!!!!

Annual Meeting Notice

As required by the ACEC OKLAHOMA By-Laws, this shall serve as official notice of the Annual Meeting of the Council, scheduled for 1:30pm, Friday, June 1, 2012 at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson, MO.

The 2012-13 ACEC OKLAHOMA Annual Budget will be presented for consideration and approval, annual reports will be presented, and election of officers for the 2012-13 year will be conducted. The Annual Budget and the Nominating Committee Report will be e-mailed to all ACEC OKLAHOMA members prior to the Convention.

All ACEC OKLAHOMA members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the ACEC Midwest States Convention, a joint meeting of Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas.



Jim Sullins Selected As Official for U.S. Swim Olympic Trials

ACEC OKLAHOMA President & CEO Jim Sullins has been selected as one of 60 officials nationwide to officiate at the U.S. Olympic Trials for Swimming in Omaha. 1,500 swimmers will compete in the 8-day event (June 25-July 2) where 52 will earn a spot on the U.S. team for the 2012 London Summer Olympics.

Sullins has been a swim official for over 20 years, having worked numerous local, regional and national championship meets in addition to high school and NCAA championships. He is a past Officials Chairman of Oklahoma Swimming, and is currently the Central Zone Officials Chair (14 states) for USA Swimming.