



# THE FIRST WORD

October, 2014

## Consulting Engineers PAC Open for Business

As was announced at the August General Membership Meeting, ACEC OKLAHOMA has formed a Political Action Committee to assist with our Government Affairs advocacy program.

The PAC...named **CONSULTING ENGINEERS PAC**...has been registered with the Oklahoma Ethics Commission, and is now "officially" open to accept contributions from ACEC OKLAHOMA members.

Without boring you with a lot of details, here's the basics:

1. Overall goal is to raise \$15,000 to \$20,000 per election cycle.
2. Contributions to the PAC can come from any owner, principal or employees of an ACEC OKLAHOMA member firm.
3. A three-member Board of Trustees will be appointed to oversee the PAC.
4. There will be two "classes" of membership: **Voting members**, who will assist the Trustees in decided to whom campaign contributions will be made, must make a minimum \$250 contribution per calendar year. **Non-Voting members**, who are welcome to attend any PAC Trustee meeting but will not have a vote in the final decision making, will be anyone who contributes less that \$250 per year.
5. Per Oklahoma Statutes and Ethics Commission Rules, only "personal" checks can be accepted by the PAC....no "corporate" checks.

An initial solicitation will go out to all ACEC OKLAHOMA members in the near future which will provide more details.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS PAC looks forward to your support!

## ACEC OKLAHOMA Board Forms New Transportation Committee

The ACEC OKLAHOMA Board of Directors, at their August meeting, authorized the formation of a permanent Transportation Committee.

The Transportation Committee will be an "open" committee, meaning that anyone can be a member. Unlike most committees, where the Chairman of the Board appoints individual to serve, this a purely VOLUNTEER committee, and there is no limit to the number of people who can be on the Committee.

The Transportation Committee will be meeting in January, and will meet approximately every two weeks during the Oklahoma Legislative Session. The Committee will work closely with the ACEC OKLAHOMA Lobbying Team and other strategic partners.

Following last session when funding to ODOT was seriously challenged, the Board decided that ACEC OKLAHOMA needed a strong "watchdog" Committee, which could react quickly in the event that other challenges came up.

If you would like to be a member of the Transportation Committee, simply email ACEC OKLAHOMA ([jsullins@acecok.org](mailto:jsullins@acecok.org)), and we'll include you on the Committee.

**ACEC OKLAHOMA**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
Thursday, November 20, 2014  
11:45am (Luncheon)  
Tulsa

Watch for details in early November.



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## OK-GI Slope Stability Seminar Set for November

The Oklahoma Chapter of the Geo-Institute is co-sponsoring a seminar in November that should be of great interest to most of the ACEC members (all civils). The 2-day seminar offers 15 PDHs.

### Slope Stability Analysis & Slope Stabilization in Engineering Practice

November 12 & 13, 2014, Oklahoma City

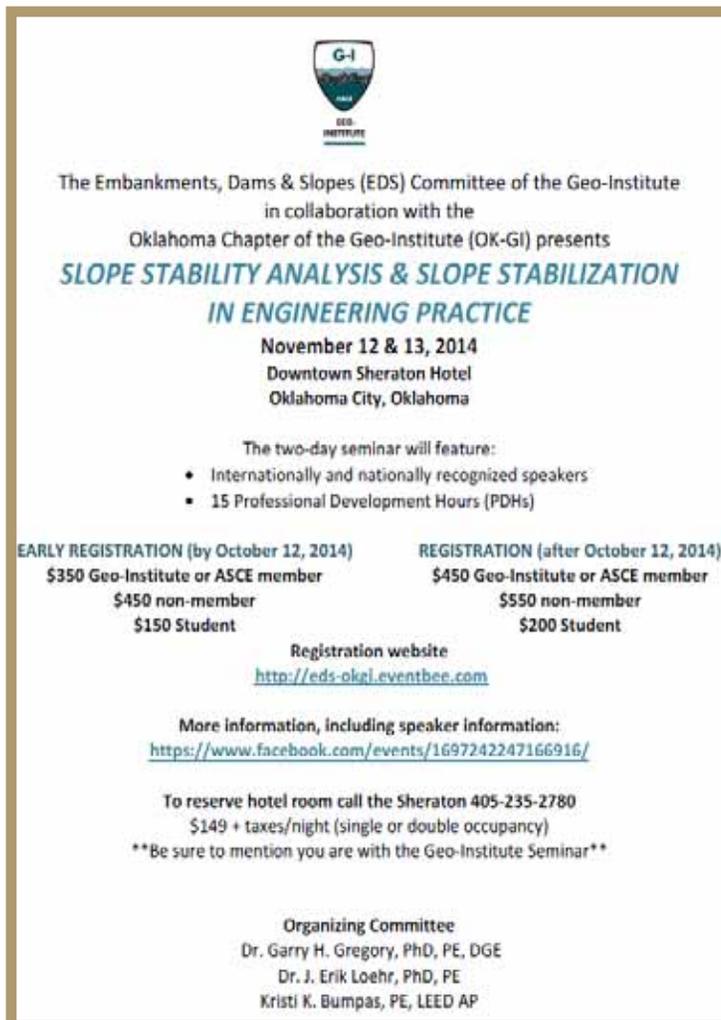
Seminar brochure is now available! Registration is open!

Please see the following links for registration and additional information pages.

Registration: <http://eds-okgi.eventbee.com>

More information, including speaker information:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1697242247166916/>



  
 The Embankments, Dams & Slopes (EDS) Committee of the Geo-Institute  
 in collaboration with the  
 Oklahoma Chapter of the Geo-Institute (OK-GI) presents  
**SLOPE STABILITY ANALYSIS & SLOPE STABILIZATION  
 IN ENGINEERING PRACTICE**  
**November 12 & 13, 2014**  
 Downtown Sheraton Hotel  
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The two-day seminar will feature:

- Internationally and nationally recognized speakers
- 15 Professional Development Hours (PDHs)

<b>EARLY REGISTRATION (by October 12, 2014)</b> \$350 Geo-Institute or ASCE member \$450 non-member \$150 Student	<b>REGISTRATION (after October 12, 2014)</b> \$450 Geo-Institute or ASCE member \$550 non-member \$200 Student
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Registration website  
<http://eds-okgi.eventbee.com>

More information, including speaker information:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1697242247166916/>

To reserve hotel room call the Sheraton 405-235-2780  
 \$149 + taxes/night (single or double occupancy)  
 \*\*Be sure to mention you are with the Geo-Institute Seminar\*\*

Organizing Committee  
 Dr. Garry H. Gregory, PhD, PE, DGE  
 Dr. J. Erik Loehr, PhD, PE  
 Kristi K. Bumpas, PE, LEED AP



The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality hosts the Oklahoma Brownfields Conference every two years.

This year's conference will be held November 5th through the 6th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Currently, we plan to have speakers for a full day on the 5<sup>th</sup> and for a half day on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Rethink • Reinvest • Reinvent:** The Oklahoma Brownfields Conference 2014 brings realtors, developers, attorneys, architects, remediation specialists, engineers and government agencies together to hear from industry leaders about the economic, social, and environmental impact of Brownfields redevelopment.

This event has become a very exciting time for public and private partners to share ideas and accomplishments from across the region and is known for setting standards nationwide.

Some of the exciting topics that will be highlighted at this year's conference are:

- Brownfields & LEED certification
- Infill and Brownfield Redevelopments
- Landfill Redevelopment
- Bringing Commercial Banks on board for Brownfield Financing
- Environmental Insurance & Who Needs It
- Community Advocacy and Brownfield Redevelopment

Please join us to hear from Visionaries to keynote Oklahoma Brownfields Conference hear from social architect Bill Strickland, sustainable development leader John Knott, and former EPA Acting Administrator Marianne Horinko.

Additional information can be found at [www.oklahomabrownfields.com](http://www.oklahomabrownfields.com)



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## Welcome New Member

ACEC OKLAHOMA is excited to welcome our newest Associate Member, **Manhattan Road & Bridge Company**.

Rich Horrocks, Stuart Ronald, and Gary Quinonez are the principal contacts for the company which provides heavy highway construction.

We welcome **Manhattan Road & Bridge Company** to ACEC OKLAHOMA, and look forward to having them as active Associate Members!

## Leadership For Engineers

6 Half-Day Sessions, 26 Hours of Learning  
Covering 10 Topics

**Class is Half-Full;  
Register Now!!!**

Registration is now open for **Class #6** of the critically acclaimed *Leadership for Engineers* program beginning in February, 2015.

The program is designed to prepare your firm's future leaders, principals, and owners for the challenges and opportunities of leading your design consulting firm.

ACEC OKLAHOMA's *Leadership for Engineers* is **targeted to all rising industry professionals** who are committed to developing their leadership and management skills and abilities, and identified by your firm as a "future leader" of your business.

**This may include design firm business and administrative coordinators, marketing managers, HR managers, project managers, new principals and middle managers.....anyone interested in developing solid management skills.**

A distinguished faculty from both inside and outside the engineering profession has been put together to address a variety of management topics including: **Leadership; Human Resources/Managing People; Ethics; Strategic Planning; Government Affairs; Economics of Private Practice; Business Development; Risk Management/Contract Language; and, Communications/Public Relations/Community Involvement, and Senior Leaders Roundtable.**

Registration info has been sent to all members, and is also on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website: [www.acecok.org](http://www.acecok.org)

## 2nd PaveXpress Webinar Scheduled for October 16th

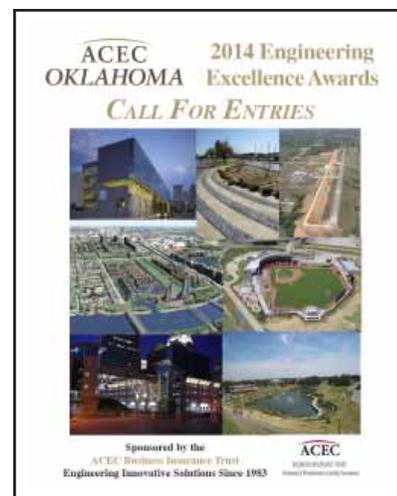
There has been such an overwhelming response to the Asphalt Pavement Alliance and NAPA webinar to roll out PaveXpress that a 2nd webinar has been scheduled for October 16th.

Larry Patrick, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Asphalt Pavement Association, encourages you to register for this new and **free** webinar that will be covering this new app for structural design of a pavement, both flexible and rigid, that can be used on iPads, iPhones and computers. Best of all it is the app is **free**.

OAPA is working with APA and NAPA to have a workshop for PaveXpress at our annual conference in February 2015 so be looking for information in the near future.

To register for this free PaveXpress webinar, click here: <https://student.gototraining.com/r/6695783182579105536>

## ACEC OKLAHOMA 2014 Engineering Excellence Awards



**Entry Deadline is  
November 7th!**

Visit [www.acecok.org](http://www.acecok.org) for entry information.



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# President's Report

## October, 2014

### David Raymond, ACEC President

With no appetite for a repeat of last year's government shutdown debacle, Congress in September approved a short-term Continuing Resolution that will fund government operations through December 11 (not exactly a profile in courage). However, House Speaker John Boehner this week singled out infrastructure funding as an area for further bipartisan progress when Congress returns after the November election. Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), visiting ACEC for discussions last week, also said that infrastructure funding held promise and looked forward to working with us to achieve a successful bill. Several MOs received Minuteman Fund grants to support infrastructure initiatives in their states. Over the past month the Council has also secured a majority of the House on a bipartisan letter to preserve cash accounting, which effectively inoculates the current practice against recent threats to it. Fourteen MOs have already achieved their annual ACEC/PAC goals, which bolsters our positions in Fall election campaigns. National political analyst Charlie Cook will be handicapping these races for you at our Fall Conference in Hawaii in a few weeks. See you then.

#### General

- Awarded Minuteman Fund grants to ACEC/Georgia, ACEC/Idaho and ACEC/Massachusetts in support of transportation funding; and ACEC/Virginia to combat efforts to undermine the state's QBS law.
- Missouri Senator Roy Blunt visited ACEC headquarters for a discussion of major regulatory and funding issues before Congress.
- Alaska, Illinois, North Dakota and Nebraska made their 2014 ACEC/PAC fundraising goals; currently 14 state organizations have crossed the finish line.
- Secured an extension of Export-Import Bank's authorization through June 30, 2015 in the 2014 Continuing Resolution; and continue to lobby for a longer term reauthorization.
- ACEC Member firms worked with Treasury Department officials at an infrastructure investment summit to develop strategies for facilitating public-private partnerships and advance innovative financing mechanisms.
- The House passed *The American Energy Solutions for Lower Costs and More American Jobs Act*, a package of ACEC-backed energy initiatives that would modernize energy infrastructure and expand the development of new energy sources.

#### Government Advocacy

- 233 Representatives – a majority of the House – signed a bipartisan letter urging House leadership to reject proposed changes to current cash accounting rules.
- Expressed concerns to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board about a proposed rule that would limit political contributions from registered municipal advisors to candidates for state and local government offices.
- The Florida Department of Transportation won the 2014 Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) Award for consistently exceeding statutory requirements in applying QBS to procurement.
- The House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee released a report on Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) that reflects ACEC's view that P3s are an important financing tool but not an alternative to strong Federal core transportation funding.



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