From the Executive Director of ACEC/NC:

It was an exciting year in Washington, DC and ACEC was in the forefront of A/E industry advocacy groups.

ACEC achieved million-dollar PAC status and North Carolina did its part by raising over $34,000 towards that important national goal. A strong finish to 2016 sets the stage for further gains in Washington.

Your Council achieved significant results at the national level by passing the $11 billion water infrastructure bill, limiting the use of single-step design build in military construction projects, securing legislative language to promote the use of engineering firms in foreign aid projects, negotiating changes to “sick time” rules that eases reporting requirements, and advancing legislation to limit the scope of the so-called “blacklisting” rule and the new FLSA salary threshold.

These wins were fueled by your generous contributions to ACEC/PAC. ACEC/PAC is now the largest PAC in the design industry and in the top 3 percent of federal PACs. In the 2016 elections, ACEC/PAC contributions helped elect pro-business candidates from both parties and scored an impressive 97 percent win rate!

With a new administration and Congress now controlled by the Republican Party, you can rest assured that ACEC will be on the front lines fighting for industry issues, including expansion of transportation, energy, and infrastructure markets with secure long-term funding, protecting the industry during major tax reform, and backing lawmakers who support our priorities.

2017 will also be an exciting year in Raleigh with a new Governor implementing an agenda with a Republican dominated legislature that is sure to generate some controversy. In the next NC Report we’ll take a look at legislation already enacted and what to expect as the NCGA embarks on its bi-annual long session. Stay tuned…

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your Executive Director,

James A. Smith, P.E.

Executive Director, ACEC/NC
Available Positions

**CALYX ENGINERS + CONSULTANTS**
Structural Project Engineer for our Charlotte, NC Office

**DEWBERRY**
Assistant Discipline Manager - Electrical

**DUNCKLEE & DUNHAM, PC**
Asbestos / Indoor Air Quality Field Technician

**GANNETT FLEMING, INC.**
Roadway Design Engineer (Engineer) and/or a Roadway Designer (Designer)

**HIGHFILL INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING, P.C.**
Water/Wastewater Project Manager

**KCI ASSOCIATES OF NC**
Senior Roadway Design Engineer - Raleigh, NC Office

**LJB INC.**
Experienced Civil Engineer – Highway/Drainage and a Civil Roadway Design Engineer – experienced level

**MCADAMS COMPANY**
1-Technical Manager/Civil Engineer Site Design, 2-Senior PE for Higher Education/Healthcare (Civil Site Design), 3-Project Manager -- Institutional/Energy, 4-Project Manager -- Land Development, 5-Institutional/Energy Project Manager (PE), 6-Senior Project Manager for Higher Education/Healthcare (Civil Site Design), 7-Technical Manager/Civil Engineer Site Design, 8-Survey Project Manager, 9-Survey Instrument Operator & Party Crew Chief, 10-Land Development (PE) Project Manager, 11-Survey Instrument Operator & Party Crew Chief, 12-Land Development (PE) Project Manager

**From the ACEC President’s Monthly Update:**

**Dear Colleagues –**

Happy New Year! We blasted through the Council’s Strategic Goal of $1 million for ACEC/PAC – and are still counting receipts. This accomplishment is all the more remarkable considering that we raised only one-fifth that amount not so long ago. These funds lay the ground work for propelling our aggressive advocacy agenda on Capitol Hill in infrastructure, energy, regulatory and tax code measures. We look forward to working closely with you in the New Year.

Dave

**General**

- Crossed the $1 million threshold in ACEC/PAC contributions in 2016, with 40 MOs meeting or exceeding their goals, and ACEC/Illinois raising $75,000 (175% of their goal), a new record for a state in a single year.
- Optimism over the Trump Administration’s plans for infrastructure investment, regulatory reform, and tax relief pushed the ACEC Engineering Business Index (EBI) up 5.1 points to 66.5, the largest ever quarterly increase.
- Entry deadline for the 2017 national Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition is Friday, January 6, 2017.
- With Stantec recently providing ACEC with 7,000 employee names and addresses to add to our mailing list for receipt of Council news and educational material, ACEC’s direct distribution list has grown to 75,414.
- At the fiscal mid-year point, ACEC’s membership statistics are trending up with 5,351 firms – a 1.3% increase since July 1, and 580,095 employees.

**Government Advocacy**

- Congress cleared, and the President signed into law, the ACEC-backed Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 (previously called WRDA), which authorizes over $11 billion for flood control, navigation, other water infrastructure needs.
- In December, ACEC/Iowa, ACEC/Arkansas, ACEC/Massachusetts, ACEC/North Carolina, ACEC/South Dakota, ACEC/Alabama, ACEC/Virginia and ACEC/Michigan met their ACEC/PAC fundraising goals for the year; other MOs made their goals earlier; and additional states are expected to meet their goals when all contributions are processed in January.
- ACEC staff provided national updates at meetings in Georgia, Nebraska, Washington, Oregon, Metro Washington, and South Carolina.
- Secured report language in the FY’17 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to limit the use of single-step design-build in military construction projects.
- Jason Webber with Kimley-Horn, the ACEC/PAC Co-Champion for Florida, became the 14th member of the Capitol Club, comprising donors who contribute the maximum amount allowable ($5,000) to the PAC.

**Business Resources**

- Nearly 600 copies of ACEC’s timely new publication, Public-Private Partnerships and Design-Build: Opportunities and Risks for Consulting Engineers, 2nd Edition, have been sold since the book’s release in late November.
- With more than 24 participants, December’s most popular online class, Five Contrarian Steps to Winning the Shortlist Interview, explored how member firms could differentiate themselves and lay the groundwork for big project wins.
- Registration is now open for ACEC’s new Essential Training: Fundamentals of Effective A/E Operations Management, February 1-2, 2017, in Washington, D.C., which will examine the essentials of effectively managing your business operations or business unit.
- Participants in the Pathways to Executive Leadership Program met for their first online course on December 13, focusing on time management and delegation of authority.
- Coalitions’ best sellers for December included CASE’s Agreement for the Provision of Limited Professional Services and CAMEE’s Submittal Checklists.
- January 2017 online programs will feature: From Project Manager to Business Leader; Win Presentations by Design, Not by Chance; The Intentional Entrepreneur: Maximize Your Leadership Impact; Build Your Reputation with Intention; New Lease Accounting Rules - How Will They Impact Your Firm?; Building a Social Responsibly

Contact ACEC/NC: 919-781-7934 or info@acecnc.org
Reports & Updates

TRUMP CABINET NOMINEES SHOW PROMISE FOR A/E INDUSTRY

Two of President-elect* Donald Trump’s nominees for Cabinet could be particularly beneficial for the Council’s national advocacy program. Transportation Secretary designate Elaine Chao is a longtime friend of ACEC. She worked closely with us as Secretary of Labor under President George W. Bush to win critical reforms to the Fair Labor Standards Act that made it easier for firms to properly classify employees for overtime purposes and avoid costly lawsuits. Chao addressed the 2005 ACEC Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. to personally thank the Council for its support in the FLSA reform campaign. When Wall Street financier Steven Mnuchin was nominated for Treasury Secretary, he said he wanted tax reform to help generate increased infrastructure investment—a key Council priority. The Council’s recommendations for legislative and regulatory advancement were delivered to President-elect Trump and his transition team in December. These recommendations are highlighted in the latest issue of Engineering, Inc. as part of the 2017 legislative outlook. (See page 6) Taking our cue from a recent 60 Minutes report, our cover story focuses on how engineers are leading efforts to improve disaster resiliency in the Pacific Northwest—as that region lies in the crosshairs of an earthquake zone more powerful than San Andreas. (See page 14) Looking ahead to our Spring Convention in April, we are lining up top industry and political speakers and will celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Engineering Excellence Awards with guest host Kevin Nealon. Mark your calendars now for April 23-26! (See page 3)

Have a great New Year!
Peter M. Strub, ACEC Chairman
David A. Raymond ACEC President & CEO

*This article was produced prior to the start of President Trump’s term

You are invited to join the ACEC/NC Board of Directors for a Networking Breakfast:

This is a time for you to:

- Get an update from the Board of Directors
- Find out how to get connected
- Give feedback on how ACEC/NC can serve you
- Ask questions of the Board of Directors
- Network with your peers

January 12 - Charlotte
March 9 - Greensboro
May 4 - Wilmington

Contact ACEC/NC: 919-781-7934 or info@acecnc.org
The next Breakfast with the Board will be held in Greensboro, NC - All Triad area ACEC/NC Members are welcome!

Location:
S&ME Office
8646 W. Market Street, Suite 105
Greensboro, NC 27409

Date: March 9, 2017
Time: 7:30 am - 9:00 am

Contact Information: Jessica Mills

Fees/Admission:
There is no charge to attend this event. Please RSVP by March 3rd so that we have an accurate head count.

Welcome our Newest Association Members

THE ACEC/NC BOARD
has welcomed the following new members. Take a minute to visit their ACEC/NC pages:

Fleming Engineering [WEBSITE]
Independent Mapping Consultants, Inc. [WEBSITE]
UMA Geotechnical [WEBSITE]
Hughes Engineering, PLLC [WEBSITE]

Consulting Congress Days®
Calling all ACEC/NC Members... this is your time to Make Your Mark on Washington! Join us April 25-26 in Washington, DC for the 2017 Consulting Congress Days (CCD). This is your chance to make an impact on the decisions that directly affect your business. You can reap the rewards of a more business-friendly Congress but we need your help to get results!

*Round Trip Bus Travel
$250.00
Includes 4/25 breakfast, snacks, beverages and lunch on the coach & evening reception. On 4/26 includes "grab-n-go" breakfast, snacks and beverages on the coach.

*Tuesday Evening Reception Only
-No Bus Travel
$50.00
Includes 4/25 evening reception only - City Club Washington

*One Way Bus Travel & Reception
$200.00
Includes 4/25 evening reception, 4/26 one way travel to Raleigh; snacks and beverages on the coach.

Contact ACEC/NC: 919-781-7934 or info@acecnc.org
Members in the News

ACEC/NC’S PAC Champions Gary Hartong of The Wooten Company and Monty Irvin of Ramey Kemp & Associates were mentioned in December’s Last Word for making their Fundraising goal for the 5th straight year.

ACEC/North Carolina’s Irvin Helps to Write Disaster Relief Legislation

North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory signed the Disaster Recovery Act of 2016 into law last week providing $201 million to help communities recover from Hurricane Matthew and wildfires. ACEC/North Carolina President-Elect Monty Irvin (second from right) of Ramey Kemp and Associates served on the governor’s Hurricane Recovery Committee. (The Last Word, December 2016).

COMPASS POINTE ENGINEERING JOINS MCGILL ASSOCIATES

McGill Associates Expands With New Coastal Location

McGill Associates is pleased to announce that Compass Pointe Engineering, a civil and environmental engineering firm based in Shallotte, North Carolina, has joined the McGill Associates’ team. [WEBSITE]

VHB ENGINEERING, NC EXPANDS SERVICES IN NORTH CAROLINA WITH ACQUISITION OF BBM ASSOCIATES, INC.

BBM Team Brings Extensive Site/Civil Engineering and Survey Experience

RALEIGH, NC (December 8, 2016) – VHB announces its acquisition of BBM Associates, Inc., a well-respected land development and survey firm in Raleigh. As part of the acquisition, BBM will join VHB’s North Carolina operation and do business as VHB.

Together with BBM, VHB will have 70 professionals poised to meet the needs of the growing Raleigh-Durham metro area. BBM’s Alan Maness, Tim Bowes, and their team bring extensive land development and survey capabilities to VHB’s expanding Raleigh office.

“This acquisition further solidifies our existing practice in Raleigh. Our new colleagues from BBM have deep connections and experience in the local real estate and institutions markets and will enable us to provide our clients with a broader range of services,” said Raleigh Managing Director, Lyle Overcash.

BBM has provided civil engineering and survey services across North Carolina since 1999. VHB has worked in North Carolina for 27 years and established its Raleigh location in 2005. The office’s nationally recognized transportation safety team primarily served the Federal Highway Administration, and in 2013 expanded services in North Carolina with the acquisition of M/A/B (established in Raleigh in 2000). VHB’s land development practice spans the east coast and includes 65 surveyors in 10 offices.

“Joining with BBM better positions us to deliver solutions to our clients facing increasingly complex..."
transportation and land use challenges associated with the rapid growth in the region,” said Nancy Barker, Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager. “This acquisition is an important building block for establishing a land development practice in North Carolina—it will enable VHB to expand our market share by adding new services in the region.”

Alan Maness stated: “We are dedicated to North Carolina’s future and we are excited to be part of the VHB team so that we can serve our clients better and make an even greater impact shaping the future of the region. Additionally, this is a great opportunity for us to help VHB bring their extensive land development and survey experience to Raleigh.”

BBM will continue to operate out of its current space at 1011 Schaub Drive in Raleigh until moving into new space at NC State Centennial Campus with VHB’s Raleigh team in early 2017.

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**STV ANNOUNCES THE HIRING OF ANDREW VANE, P.E.**

**STV Incorporated** is excited to announce the hiring of Andrew Vane, P.E., a highly experienced project manager, designer and construction administrator of water, sewer and force mains for nearly 25 years. Andrew is a senior project manager based in our Charlotte office. He is responsible for managing water and sewer utility design projects, while also providing quality assurance to these initiatives in North and South Carolina.

Andrew has been an active participant and contributor to a number of annual conferences and industry publications relating to water and sewer utility design and construction. He has authored articles appearing in NC Currents Magazine and Trenchless World Magazine, and recently presented at the 2016 Water Environment Federation’s Technical Exhibition and Conference, the largest event of its kind in North America. He is also scheduled to speak at the North American Society for Trenchless Technology’s No8Dig Show in April, 2017 in Washington, D.C.

Founded more than 100 years ago, STV is a leader in providing engineering, planning, architectural, environmental and construction management services for transportation systems, infrastructure, buildings, energy and other facilities. The firm is ranked 40th in Engineering News Record’s Top 500 Design Firms survey and 9th in its Transportation category. STV is 100 percent employee-owned. For more information, visit our website at www.stvinc.com or follow @STVGroup on Twitter.

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**RAMEY KEMP & ASSOCIATES IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE**

Roger Henderson, AICP, P.E. as the firm’s Director of Planning

Raleigh, North Carolina – January 23, 2017 Mr. Henderson will work with clients to build and strengthen relationships firmwide. One of his focus areas will be to recruit and build a team of transportation and environmental planners to work with established practice builders within the firm in traffic engineering, signal design, and roadway design. Mr. Henderson earned a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University in 1980 and a master’s degree in Transportation from the University of California at Berkeley. He has practiced planning and engineering in Virginia and the Carolinas since 1996. Also, currently Mr. Henderson is Board President of BikeWalk NC, Lead Instructor of the National Complete Streets Coalition, and affiliated with the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals. He is an accomplished planner with expertise in complete streets, urban street systems planning and street transformation, corridor planning and development modes including pedestrian and bicycle systems planning, long range planning, and environmental documents.

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**ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION (NCHEA) AND THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING, REFRIGERATING, AND AIR-CONDITIONING ENGINEERS (ASHRAE).**

# # #
ACEC/NC Winter Reception and Networking Event

Come in out of the cold and join us on the evening of February 15th for networking, refreshments, and a presentation from noted political analyst John Davis you won’t want to miss!

John will give us an update on the political scene in Washington and North Carolina and what to expect with the new administrations.

Plenty of **GOOD FOOD, GOOD DRINK, & GOOD TIMES** with your ACEC/NC colleagues.

We will also have an **ACEC/PAC RAFFLE**—just $20/ticket—for the chance to win a fabulous item!

**WHERE:** Jidi Room @ Gravy, Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC. Time: 5-7 pm. Registration Cost is only $30! See you there!

**STAY CONNECTED:**
acecnc.org | 919-781-7934 | jmills@acecnc.org

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**ACEC-NC RALEIGH NORTH CAROLINA**

150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1340
Raleigh North Carolina 27601

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**
Weekdays, Monday through Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

Please use the Alexander Square Parking Deck located across Fayetteville Street from the Wells Fargo Capitol Center.

**ALEXANDER SQUARE PARKING DECK**

120 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
Hourly: $1.00 for each half hour
$12.00 daily maximum

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The office is closed on the following holidays:

- New Years Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day

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**Staff**

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