

SEPTEMBER 2016

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Upcoming ACEC/NC Events & Activities

REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE

Symposiums/Workshops

NEPA Overview Training
September 27
SOLD OUT

EPAC Luncheon
September 28

September 23rd:
Registration Closes

Committee Events

BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE
SYMPOSIUM:
Build It and They Will Come
December 7 9:30AM - 4:00 PM
Charlotte

2016 SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

Committee Meetings

BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE
September 29 11:45AM
Raleigh

LEGISLATIVE
October 11 4-5:00 PM
ACEC/NC Office
Raleigh

Continued on Col.1, Page 2...

From the Executive Director of ACEC/NC:

Clinton/Trump, McCrory/Cooper, Burr/Ross: Does My Vote Matter?

By now you are probably tired of all the election year noise out there. Unless you've been lost on a desert island, it's hard to ignore that 2016 is a national election year, with races at the federal, state, and local levels.

And things will get even more hectic as we approach election day in November. This year has defied all the odds, with pundits scratching their heads over what has occurred, and what may still happen. But what does this all mean for you as an ACEC member, and a citizen of the greatest country in the world?

Nearly 250 years ago our founding fathers embarked on a grand experiment that had never been tried before; that the people have the ability to choose who their leaders will be. And every four years, each of us has the privilege of casting a ballot for that group of individuals who will craft the laws and lead our nation on a course to the future. Regardless of our differences of opinion, we coalesce behind our new leadership and peacefully transition power to the next administration.

As a citizen of this great land, there are three things you can do: Learn, Discuss, and Vote.

- **Learn:** Take the time to read where each candidate stands on the issues important to you, and understand what the other side believes. Don't be a one-issue voter, take a candidate's overall philosophy and record into consideration.
- **Discuss:** Dialogue with your family, friends, and colleagues about the candidates and issues. Again, listen to the other side. You might learn something new that helps you make an intelligent decision on who to support.
- **Vote:** Don't stay on the sidelines. Regardless of how you feel about the top ballot candidates, your vote matters. Many times the philosophy of an administration is more important than the person that heads it. And this year more than most there are down ballot races that will affect you each and every day.

As an ACEC member and a citizen, get to know the people who represent you. You are their constituent and they cannot represent you unless they hear from you about what issues are important. Your ACEC leadership works tirelessly to advocate for the issues that are important to our industry, both here in North Carolina and in Washington, DC. Support both E-PAC (State) and ACEC/PAC (Federal) with your contributions. Our financial support helps elect candidates who are supportive of our issues. To help you with where the Presidential candidates stand on our issues, click on the link to reference a great article in Engineering, Inc. on the platforms of both parties "[Clinton/Trump-Who is Best for your Business.](#)"

Remember; Learn, Discuss, Vote.

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



James A. Smith, P.E.
Executive Director, ACEC/NC

Continued from Col.1, Page 1...

ENVIRONMENTAL
October 26 11:30AM
 ACEC/NC Office
 Raleigh



BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE
October 26 11:30AM
 Raleigh



TRANSPORTATION
November 14 3PM-5PM EST
 Stantec
 Raleigh



BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE
November 23 11:45AM
 Raleigh



BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE
December 13 11:30AM
 Raleigh



Member Events

October 11
 2016 Election Update and
 ACEC/PAC Raffle



November 2
 Joint ACEC/NC & NCDOT
 Transportation Conference



November 10
 Engineering Excellence Awards
 (EEA) Gala

*Registration will open when
 Awards are announced.*

December 14
 Holiday PAC Reception &
 Auction
 Raleigh

...for more details visit
[ACEC/NC.org!](http://ACEC/NC.org)

From the ACEC President's Monthly Update:

September 1, 2016

General

- The ACEC Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept the Rhode Island Consulting Engineers (RICE) as the Council's 52nd Member Organization; the new ACEC/Rhode Island delegation will be formally welcomed at the board meeting at the Fall Conference in Colorado Springs.
- ACEC's outside auditors for our FY 2016 annual audit reported that the Council's "sound financial practices and procedures are exemplary."
- ACEC/PAC passed the \$600,000 mark in total receipts for the calendar year, with Connecticut and Idaho joining Indiana, Hawaii, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Tennessee, Montana, and Delaware in meeting their annual PAC goals.
- ACEC/Louisiana has contributed \$2,000 to help the more than 350 employees of the Louisiana DOT hit hard by the recent catastrophic flooding in the southern part of the state; ACEC members throughout the country are encouraged to contribute to the DOT Employee Assistance Fund – click here for the donation form and please refer to ACEC in the comments section.

Government Advocacy

- Urged the Speaker of the House and the leadership of the House Appropriations Committee to support a provision in the 2017 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill that would restore the ability of the Export-Import Bank to make loans, bypassing Sen. Richard Shelby's (R-AL) hold-up of President Obama's new nominees for the Ex-Im Board as a means of thwarting the Bank.
- Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) wrote a strong letter to the Secretaries of Treasury and Housing and Urban Development addressing concerns raised by ACEC that public building owners are demanding a refund from firms claiming a tax deduction under Section 179D to promote energy efficient buildings.
- The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced that it will develop a regulatory framework to allow some commercial use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) over people on the ground, a move supported by ACEC.
- Joined with 22 other stakeholder organizations in objecting to the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions in proposed FHWA performance management requirements for State DOTs and metropolitan planning organizations.
- Backed the nomination of two member firm executives to represent the industry on a North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) committee that will develop standards to implement the FERC supply chain cybersecurity rule.
- The Environment and Energy Committee summer meeting featured briefings on congressional consideration of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), comprehensive energy legislation, NEPA reform, the water utility of the future, and the FERC/NERC supply chain cyber security rule and standards development.
- ACEC/PAC co-hosted fundraising events for Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) and House Members Don Beyer (D-VA), Cheri Bustos (D-IL), Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO), Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Dan Lipinski (D-IL), Mark Pocan (D-WI), Mike Quigley (D-IL), Kurt Schrader (D-OR), and Juan Vargas (D-CA).
- ACEC/PAC also coordinated in-state PAC check presentations for Reps. Susan Brooks (R-IN), Larry Bucshon (R-IN), and Ryan Zinke (R-MT). #

**2016-2017
Board of Directors**

Executive Committee

President
Stephanie Hachem, P.E.
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President-Elect
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Executive Director
James Smith, P.E.
jsmith@acecnc.org

**Welcome to our Newest
Board Member!**

Amit is a water resources services leader for Alpha & Omega Group in Raleigh. With a 15 years career spanning academics and private sector, Amit has served in engineering and business development roles as research assistant, designer, team lead, project manager, and pursuit manager. His project portfolio includes projects in riverine modeling, stream restoration, dam break analyses, stormwater capital improvement, erosion control and roadway drainage projects for municipal, state, and federal clients.

Amit has been board member on several professional organizations such as North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers (NCAFPM) and North Carolina Water Resources Association (NCWRA). Amit serves as a chairman for Central Carolina Chapter of MATHCOUNTS. Amit was honored as 'Engineer of the Year' in 2016 by Professional Engineers of North Carolina (PENC). Originally from India, Amit has been living in NC for 12 years with his wife and 2 kids and they enjoy outdoor activities.



For further information
visit
[Amit's LinkedIn](#) page

**Welcome our Newest
Association Members**

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

ACEC-SC

ACEC/Virginia

BROWN CONSULTANTS

Asheville

CLARK PATTERSON LEE

Charlotte

**A1 CONSULTING GROUP,
d/b/a NFE Technologies**

Morrisville

DEADLINES!

save the date:

December 14th

⊗ ⊗ ⊗ ⊗ ⊗ ⊗

Holiday ACEC PAC & Auction Party
nc museum of natural sciences
raleigh, nc

Earlybird Rates End OCTOBER 1st

DON'T DELAY!!

**ACEC/NC and NCDOT
Joint Transportation Conference**

November 2, 2016
Raleigh Convention Center

ACEC/NC NCDOT Transportation Conference, the largest transportation event in the state, explores the latest transportation innovations and provides attendees with the chance to network with other professionals.

REGISTER NOW

Available Positions

ACEC/NC seeks to employ a Membership Recruiter/Lobbyist Assistant. Responsibilities The successful candidate for this position will be a team player with ability to develop strategies for helping to identify and recruit new full, associate, and affiliate/supplier member firms to ACEC of North Carolina <http://www.acecnc.org/jobs/info/sales-membership-recruiter-lobbyist-assistant>

WITHERSRAVENEL AND MCADAMS COMPANY are running neck and neck with the number of open positions for Project Managers, Structural Engineers, Land Development, Civil Design Engineers... check them out:

<http://wITHERSRAVENEL.com/careers/>

<http://MCADAMSCO.com/>

The newest postings come from **LJB** for Raleigh or Wilmington:

- Experienced Civil Engineer – Highway/Drainage
- Civil Roadway Design Engineer – experienced level

<http://www.ljbinc.com/careers/>

and **RS&H** has two positions:

- Airfield Engineer/Project Manager (Raleigh)
- Roadway Engineer (Charlotte)

<http://www.rsandh.com/>

► **LOOK ON WWW.ACECNC.ORG WEBSITE FOR DETAILS AND CONTACT INFORMATION ON THESE JOBS AND OTHERS – GOOD LUCK!**



JUDGING

Entries are to be judged (by an outside panel of judges) on the basis of overall engineering excellence in each of twelve practice areas, based only on the work performed by the entering firm and scored in accordance with the guidelines. Once the judging has been completed, entrants will be notified as to whether or not their project will be honored with an award, but the specific level of the award the project will receive will not be announced until the ACEC/NC Engineering Excellence Awards Dinner on November 10, 2016.

DATES TO REMEMBER

ACEC/NC schedule for submittals are as follows:

Deadline for Entries ~~September 23, 2016~~
Judging **September 28-October 7, 2016**
 Awards Ceremony November 10, 2016

ACEC/NC Grand Winners may also re-submit to ACEC National’s EEA Competition.

ACEC **National’s** schedule for submittals are as follows:

Deadline for Entries **January 6, 2017**
 Judging of Submittals **February 10-12, 2017**
 EEA Gala - Washington, DC **April 25, 2017**

Join us on November 2nd at the Raleigh Convention Center for our annual ACEC/NC/DOT Joint Transportation Conference!

AGENDA

Tuesday, November 1st | 7PM - 9PM

Come early and enjoy an opportunity to network with colleagues, exhibitors and conference sponsors!

Wednesday, November 2nd
7:15-8:00 am: Registration, Networking Breakfast

8:00-9:30 am: General Session (1.5 PDH)

9:30-10:15 am: Break

10:15-12:15 pm: Morning Concurrent Workshops (2 PDH)

Cool Projects

Port of Miami; Cargo... from water to underground

Dam in Washington scanned and 3D model by drone; Drones! Dam! Safety!

New York sustainability project; The Manhattan Protection Project

“Roads? Where We Are Going We Don’t Need Roads.”

Aviation: The future of drones in the transportation industry and our State.

Bicycle topics: *Raleigh Bike Share Program*

Rail: *Update on the progress of ARRA projects between Raleigh and Charlotte*

Motivational Stories in Engineering

Engineers who ROCK!!

No Barriers Project; *Building Connections at the Seams of Neighborhoods*

Encouragement, *Pay it Forward*

Encouragement, *Dang Boy! You can got to jail for that!*

12:30-2:00 pm Lunch & Keynote Speaker (1 PDH)

2:00-2:45 pm Afternoon Break, Networking

2:45-4:45 pm: Afternoon Concurrent Workshops (2 PDH)

Engineers are People Too

Ethics: *You can’t lead cutting corners*

Business Development/Networking 101; *Soft Skills for Engineers*

Leadership Success, or Leadership Significance?

Environmental/NEPA

Environmental Justice and NEPA: *“To EJ or not to EJ... That is the Question”*

Public Involvement and Noise: *“Sounds of Transit and Highways”*

The Mountains to Sea State Trail: *“How Did the Hiker Cross the Road?”*

#WhatsTrending?

Smart Cities: *“Are cities smart or people”*

Demographics: *“Transportation Choices of Baby Boomers and Millennials”*

Demographics: *Transportation Choices of Baby Boomers and Millennials*

Big Data: *“Big Data is the answer... What is the question”*

5:00-6:30 pm: Networking Reception & Raffle

SAVE \$60 WHEN YOU REGISTER Early Bird by October 1st

Reports & Updates

Event Reports

ACEC/PAC Update: North Carolina over halfway to Goal

ACEC/PAC continues to grow and North Carolina is nearly 60% towards it's 2016 goal of \$28,000. Nationally, ACEC/PAC is well on its way to exceeding \$1 million this year. Why is this important? Because your contributions help ACEC/PAC support candidates who are good on issues vital to our industry. ACEC/PAC is now in the top 3% of PACs nationwide, far and away the strongest PAC in our industry!

Here are the issues ACEC is focusing on at the national level:

- Member Action Needed to support House Action on WRDA
...[READ MORE](#)
- ACEC Calls for Full Transportation Funding in 2017
...[READ MORE](#)
- ACEC/Coalition urge Congress to Extend Tax Incentives
...[READ MORE](#)
- Is the IRS Challenging your Tax Credit Claims?
...[READ MORE](#)

Click on the Links to read more about these critical issues, and be sure to attend the Election Briefing and ACEC/PAC Fundraiser on October 11, 2016 at Siti in Downtown Raleigh.

2016 Annual Summer Conference

On the weekend of August 4th-6th, over 150 members, guests, and dignitaries convened at the Omni Grove Park Inn in Asheville for the Annual ACEC/NC Summer Conference.

An informative and lively group of sessions followed our 3rd Annual Brewery Tour and Friday Induction Banquet. The weekend culminated in a rousing ACEC/PAC Summer Auction setting a new record in support of our national PAC!

The following photos depict highlights of the Friday Banquet, which included presentation of an Outstanding Achievement Award to Rep. Rick Catlin for his service to our industry in the North Carolina General Assembly.

We are already making plans for our 2017 Summer Conference at the Holiday Inn Sunspree in Wrightsville Beach. But rest assured, we will be back at the Grove Park in 2018. From the mountains to the coast, North Carolina is the greatest state in the USA! #

Firm Qualifications Based Selection (QBS)

Through the combined efforts of ACEC/NC, PENC, AIA, and CAGC landmark legislation was passed in 2013 and 2-14 that modified the states QBS statutes. Public Entities can no longer "opt-out of qualifications based selection and must use QBS for solicitation of professional services on all projects except for a sole-source selection with estimated fees less than \$50,000."

HB 857 and HB 1043 closed the opt-out loophole in North Carolina's Mini-Brooks Act and further clarified the requirements for QBS selection. Member firms who believe a public entity has violated these statutes should contact ACEC of North Carolina for assistance.

QBS – IT'S THE LAW



2016-2017 BOD



Future Leaders Class'16



Rick Catlin

Merit Award



Doug Taylor

Outstanding Committee Chair



Jeff Douglas

Eagle Award



Monty Irvin

President's Award

Thanks to our
Summer Conference
Sponsors 2016

PLATINUM SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSOR



SILVER SPONSOR



BRONZE SPONSOR



STEWART



Members in the News

DMP Welcomes New Senior Project Engineer

Steve McKee, PE has joined Davis • Martin • Powell & Associates as a senior project engineer.

McKee has more than 25 years of project management experience, including supervising the design of utility relocations with NCDOT. He will be based in Apex, NC.

“Steve’s experience includes the identification and design to relocate water and sewer facilities that were in conflict with NCDOT projects throughout the State,” said Michael Slusher, PE, President of DMP. “Steve’s knowledge of NCDOT design and construction will provide a valuable resource to our clients. Transportation support services are a growing market for DMP and Steve will greatly expand our capacity”.

COMPANY NEWS

SEPI Wins Local Community Award

The SEPI Team was honored to win the 2016 Fred Fletcher Outstanding Adopt-A-Park award from the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources. Our Green Committee has been volunteering for the Adopt-A-Park since 2013, helping with park maintenance projects and supporting the Raleigh Parks System. We are very excited about this award and our Continued involvement in the Raleigh community.



Event Reports Continued...

Par for the PAC Proud!



Kimley-Horn came in 1st Place at the 2016 Par for the PAC Tournament at Prestonwoods, Cary

On Monday... What a haul!

Thanks everyone for attending our PAR FOR THE PAC Legislative Breakfast and Golf Tournament fundraiser, making your golf game ‘enhancement’ purchases to support the PAC, and keeping cool heads in that frightful 92 degree heat! Thanks also to Jessica for braving the heat with Kelly of Thinc Strategy, sponsor of the much welcomed beverage cart, and to the Legislative Committee’s Chair, Brian Glidewell and Vice-Chair, Jeremy Potter who assisted with Registration.

Before the Shotgun Start, Guest Speaker, John Davis, of John Davis Consulting, broke down the 2016 elections and the impact from what may happen in North Carolina. Many of you requested a copy of the informative presentation. John assures us he will be back - in the fall - but cannot share hard copies.

Update:

Come and hear John Davis as he updates the 2016 Races at our Election Briefing on October 11, 2016 @ “Jiddi” (Sitti’s private dining room), 137 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC. Alexander Square Parking Deck is in same block.

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ACEC-NC RALEIGH NORTH CAROLINA

150 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1340
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HOURS OF OPERATION:
Weekdays, Monday through Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

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

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

The office is closed on the following holidays:

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

