

January 2011

Upcoming ACEC/NC Events & Activities

Environmental Education & Networking Event

February 8, 2011
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Jane S. McKimmon Center
Raleigh, NC

E-PAC Luncheon

February 17, 2011
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Cardinal Club
Raleigh, NC

Breakfast with the Board

February 22, 2011
7:30 - 9:00 a.m.
Kleinfelder Office
Greensboro, NC

E-PAC Luncheon

March 17, 2011
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Cardinal Club
Raleigh, NC

Membership Seminar & Reception

March 17, 2011
2:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Cardinal Club
Raleigh, NC

Consulting Congress Day

March 29 - 30, 2011
Washington, D.C.

Engineering Day at the Legislature

April 27, 2011
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Raleigh, NC

Federal Forum

May 5, 2011
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Jane S. McKimmon Center
Raleigh, NC

ACEC/NC - PENC Joint Summer Conference

August 11 - 14, 2011
Marriott Grande Dunes
Myrtle Beach, SC

...more details to come!

Consulting Congress Day



Mark your calendars for March 29th-30th, when ACEC/NC is heading to Washington D.C. for Consulting Congress Day. To make our issues heard, we'll need all the voices we can get, so plan to be there!

ACEC member lobbying will be focused on the critical elements of an economic recovery for the industry: passage of long-stalled infrastructure legislation, repeal of the 3% withholding mandate on government contracts, and alleviating the burden of over-regulation and in-sourcing threats. With more than 90 new Members of Congress to meet and educate on these matters, your participation is vital.

The key infrastructure priorities for the engineering industry in 2011 are the passage of a new long-term surface transportation bill, an aviation reauthorization bill, and water and wastewater legislation. While Congress has passed a series of temporary extensions that continue current funding mechanisms, the existing programs are limping along as states and local governments lack the financial certainty to move forward with major improvement projects. The message to Congress: infrastructure is the backbone of the nation and must be a bi-partisan legislative priority in 2011.

A more business-friendly Congress should be receptive to ACEC lobbying on tax and regulatory matters. Looming over the industry in 2012 is a sweeping new requirement mandating that federal, state and some local governments withhold 3% from payments to engineering firms and other contractors for goods and services. ACEC leads the coalition to kill the provision, highlighting how it penalizes honest taxpayers by placing unnecessary and onerous financial burdens on firms by disrupting cash flow and imposing significant administrative costs on contractors and public agencies. Hill visits will also focus on other regulatory burdens and threats to contracting with the private sector.

Full details and registration for CCD are coming soon, so stay tuned!

New Ways to Stay Informed

ACEC/NC wants you to stay in the loop...that's why we've set up two new ways for you to stay informed!

First, Executive Director Kathryn Westcott now has a Twitter account where she can provide you with Legislative updates, updates about committee meetings and events, and other topics of interest. She is already tweeting daily, so start following her today! To follow Kathryn on Twitter, sign up for an account - while setting up an account, you will also have the option to register your mobile phone. After setting up your account, search for kswestcott in the search bar. Once you find her, click the "Follow" box, then click the cell phone graphic next to the "Following" box to activate the instant mobile updates. Kathryn's tweets also appear on ACEC/NC website's home page on the bottom left side.

Second, we are now keeping our Facebook page up to date with pictures, event information and more! After logging in to your facebook account, search for "American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina" and "like" us. That will give you access to updates and important information. Also, for those of you who don't use Twitter, Kathryn's tweets post directly on our Facebook page.

Kathryn's tweets are now your main resource for Legislative updates, so make sure you follow her tweets using one of these methods!

As always, if you have questions setting up an account on any of these websites, or if you have trouble accessing the information you need please contact the ACEC/NC office at (919) 781-7934.

E-PAC Luncheon with Senator Brunstetter



Senator Brunstetter is to Chair the Senate Judiciary 1 Committee and Co-Chair the Senate Appropriations Committee, two of the most powerful and influential committee assignments in the Senate. Don't miss this opportunity to make an impact for the engineering industry with this powerful Legislator! [CLICK HERE](#) for details and registration information (\$35 per person).

Positions Available

For more information on these job postings and how to apply, please refer to the jobs board on the ACEC/NC website at www.acecnc.org/jobs.aspx.

CATLIN is seeking qualified candidates for the following positions:

GIS Technician candidates for full-time employment within their Raleigh, NC office.

Entry Level Civil/Environmental Engineer.

HDR is in need of a **Federal Program Manager** for their Carolinas offices.

Michael Baker Engineering is seeking a **Marketing Specialist** for their Cary, NC office.

Mulkey Engineers & Consultants is seeking qualified candidates for the following positions:

Marketing Coordinator for their Cary, NC office.

Senior Planner for their Cary, Charlotte, or Roswell office.

S&ME, Inc. is seeking **Construction Services Manager** for their Greensboro, North Carolina location.

VHB is seeking an experienced **Marketing Administrator** to support their DoD program.

Withers & Ravenel, Inc is seeking qualified candidates for the following positions:

Civil PE, or EI, or designer for their Cary or Greensboro office.

Civil PE or EIT for the Cary office.

The Wooten Company is seeking a **Civil/Environmental Project Engineer** for their office in Raleigh, NC.

To have your company's open positions included in the next NC Report, email info@acecnc.org

Membership Events Packed with Power and Profits

On January 25th, over sixty ACEC/NC members gathered in Charlotte for the "Power" Lunch Focusing on Energy, which was facilitated by Michael Creed of McKim & Creed. Panelists from Green Energy Corp, Duke Energy and the City of Charlotte gave cutting-edge reports on the latest developments, challenges and opportunities in the energy market. Electric cars, solar panels, windmill farms and the policies driving U.S. energy goals were all discussed, revealing mind-blowing innovations and thought-provoking challenges.

The next membership event will be focused on "Profits" and is scheduled for March 17th as a seminar and networking reception to be held in Raleigh. Mark your calendars now for this opportunity to hear a panel of firm CEOs sharing their best practices, lessons learned and business-changing ideas from over the past two years – the focus being on moving forward for maximum profits! More details and registration information coming soon.

Help Us Reach Our Goal

In 2010, ACEC/NC raised \$7,950 toward our ACEC/PAC goal. That is \$3,750 more than we raised in 2009, but we need to do even better this year! Our goal for 2011, which is set by ACEC National, is \$24,154. Help us raise that money so that we can meet our goal! How can you contribute? ACEC/NC will have fundraisers planned later in 2011, but for now, you can enter ACEC National's sweepstakes. The drawing will be held on April 1st, 2011, and nine prizes will be awarded. The top prize? \$10,000, so don't miss out!

If you have any questions or are interested in participating, contact Kathryn Westcott (kswestcott@acecnc.org) or our ACEC/PAC Champion Jeff Douglas (Jeffrey.douglas@hdrinc.com).



Environmental Education & Networking Event

Network, have lunch and hear updates from NCDENR, the latest on sustainability and how to get the most bang for your buck out of your business development efforts! The cost is only \$35 for ACEC/NC members, so [CLICK HERE](#) for agenda and registration information.

Rick Catlin Elected New Hanover County Commissioner

Rick Catlin, President of CATLIN Engineers and Scientists, which is headquartered in Wilmington, was elected New Hanover County Commissioner. Rick was sworn in to the position, which he will hold for the next four years, on December 6th, 2010. Rick has over 30 years of experience as an environmental engineer and is a member of the Society of American Military Engineers, Professional Engineers of North Carolina, and is a member of the Board of Directors of ACEC/NC.

Congratulations, Rick!



ABOVE: District Court Judge Sandra Ray Criner swears in Rick Catlin as New Hanover County Commissioner.



Call for Topics and Speakers!

The ACEC/NC/DOT Transportation Conference Planning Committee will begin meeting in February to plan the October 18th, 2011 conference. They are collecting topic and speaker suggestions now to build the agenda for this exciting annual event centered around "Exploring Transportation". Send your ideas to Tia Jones at tjones@acecnc.org.

ACEC Business Insurance Trust Offers New Member Benefit

The ACEC Business Insurance Trust is offering a new benefit! Members that have incurred losses and paid deductibles related to Property and Automobile insurance (comprehensive and collision) under the ACEC Business Insurance Program are eligible to request financial assistance from the BIT to help with the cost of the deductible. Payments will be made on a voluntary basis subject to available funds. Assistance will be limited to \$500 per claim with a total of \$1,000 per firm in a calendar year.

For more information, on this benefit contact the BIT Treasurer, Woody Germany, at 406-728-4611 or wgermany@wgmggroup.com

Committee Happenings

Buildings & Infrastructure: The B&I committee met last month with representatives of the State Construction Office, AIA and AGC to work on finalizing plans for this year's State Construction Conference agenda. This year's attendance is expected to increase again as it has over the past several years.

Each of the four B&I subcommittees have been active in the past few months developing programs for 2011. The next B&I subcommittee meetings are scheduled for Feb 2nd at the ACEC office and will meet as follows; Education Subcommittee 10am-11:30am, Healthcare Subcommittee 11:30a.m. - 1p.m. (lunch provided), Government Subcommittee 1p.m. - 2:30p.m. and Private Development Subcommittee 2:30p.m.-4p.m.

CEO Roundtable: The CEO Roundtable recently had a meeting at the ACEC/NC office on January 18th. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 12th. Full details are coming soon, so if you'd like to get on this Forum's email list, please contact Tia Jones at the ACEC/NC office.

Economic Development: Our Economic Development Committee is busy. We have a presentation scheduled for February 2nd to the Research Triangle Partnership, and we have tentative dates for presentations to the Charlotte Regional Partnership and North Carolina's Northeast in the 1st quarter. We are pursuing a speaker spot at the NCEDA summer conference. Our next committee conference call is January 28th at 10a.m.

Environmental: The Environmental Committee's Environmental Education and Networking Lunch will be held at the McKimmon Center on February 8 from 11:00-2:00. Lunch speakers include David Knight providing an update on DENR, Chris Hilt of CLH Designs addressing sustainability issues, and David Stone of Stone & Company talking about marketing A/E services. Register today by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Federal: The 2011 Federal Forum "Going Beyond Construction...Energy, Infrastructure and Asset Management in the 21st Century" will be held on 5 May at the McKimmon Center from 7:30a.m. - 5:00p.m. This year's event is co-sponsored by our partners at the Carolinas AGC. The forum will explore the issues and challenges associated with today's growing energy, infrastructure and asset management market at both the Federal and State levels. It will feature guest speakers from the NC State Legislature and State Energy Office, Ft. Bragg and Camp Lejeune, IBM and AGC National.

Human Resources: The HR Forum is currently planning their next meeting for February 23rd, which will take place from 10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. at Stantec's Winston-Salem office. Their topic is Healthcare Reform, and David C. Smith, Vice-President of Ebenconcepts in Fayetteville, will be speaking.

Legislative: The Legislative Committee is holding a joint Legislative Committee meeting with PENC on February 3rd at 3:00p.m. at the ACEC/NC office. At this meeting they will discuss legislative issues that both organizations can work on together.

PR/Marketing: The PR/Marketing Committee is busy planning the Client LEO awards for May 18th, and their annual live event for June 7th. Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16th from 2:00 - 3:30p.m. at Stantec's Raleigh office.

Small Business Forum: The Small Business Forum recently had a meeting on January 27th. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 31st from 3:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. at Martin/Alexiou/Bryson's Raleigh office.

Transportation: The next Transportation Committee meeting is schedule for Monday, February 28th from 3:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. at Stantec's Raleigh office.

Member Firms in the News

Dewberry

Dewberry, a privately held professional services firm, has promoted **Skip Notte, PE, LEED AP**, to **associate vice president and branch manager of Dewberry's Charlotte, North Carolina, office**. In his new role, he will be responsible for management of the office's daily operations and serve a diverse client base that ranges from local municipalities to national commercial clients.

"My goal is to support the continued growth of the Charlotte office to benefit our clients with Dewberry's full realm of services," stated Notte.

"Skip's focus on serving the client has served Dewberry well," said Darren Conner, president. "His management style will introduce new services to existing clients and allow the Charlotte office to broaden its already diverse client base."

Notte has been with Dewberry since 1999. He previously served as a project manager and senior associate in the Richmond office. With over 10 years of experience, he has worked on the preparation of engineering studies, technical specifications, the design of water and sewer improvement projects, utility coordination, and construction administration for water, sewer and civil engineering projects.

Notte earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech. He is a registered professional engineer in Virginia and is a LEED Accredited Professional. Notte is a member of the American Water Works Association and Virginia Tech's Land Development Design Initiative Advisory Board.

Dewberry would like to congratulate **Matt Watt for passing the PE exam**. Matt Watt is a civil project engineer and construction administrator with five years of experience. Matt's portfolio of work focuses on water and wastewater transmission lines and includes projects completed for various municipalities, state, local, federal and private clients.

They would also like to congratulate **Justin Rogers for passing the PE exam**. Justin Rogers is a mechanical engineer with five years of experience and works in the Raleigh office. Justin has assisted with feasibility studies and mechanical design of educational, commercial and institutional facilities.

H.W. Lochner, Inc.

The corporate offices of **H.W. Lochner, Inc.** (Lochner) and **Bucher, Willis and Ratliff Corp.** (BWR) announced in November the **merger of the two firms** to operate as one entity under the Lochner name. Lochner will remain headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, with the BWR offices now functioning as Lochner regional offices.

"It's a win-win for both firms," commented Hal Lochner, Chairman at Lochner. "BWR gains entry into the national transportation market and mega projects, including alternative delivery projects involving public-private partnerships (P3s) and design-build, while Lochner gains both geographic and technical growth."

"Lochner's strategic plan calls for growth, including diversification into new states and new market sectors. By adding Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas to our office network, our geographic reach has significantly expanded. BWR specialists in aviation, architecture, municipal engineering and urban planning similarly expand the technical skills we can offer to our clients," stated Jim Bishop, Lochner President and CEO, who will continue to serve in that role after the merger.

Collectively, the firm now employs over 560 civil and structural engineers, urban planners, environmental scientists, architects, design technicians and support specialists. Lochner now operates in 31 offices located in 18 states.

"Both firms share the same goal of providing value and innovative solutions to our clients' problems. With a comparable culture and commitment, it's a good fit for both firms," added Larry White, former CEO of BWR, who will now serve as Senior Vice President and Regional Team Leader for National Practices for Lochner. Mr. White also joins the Lochner Board of Directors.

Martin/Alexiou/Bryson, PC

Martin/Alexiou/Bryson, P.C., a Raleigh transportation planning and traffic engineering firm, is pleased to announce that **Sravya Suryadevara has received her North Carolina Professional Engineer license**. Sravya has been with M/A/B for more than one year and focuses on traffic engineering projects for the firm.

McKim & Creed, PA

Don Safrit, PE, a senior technical specialist with McKim & Creed, has been designated as an **associate graduate faculty member at the University of North Carolina Charlotte**.

During his three-year term as an associate member of the graduate faculty, Safrit will work with graduate students in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering who are pursuing interests in reclaimed water/sustainability.

Safrit has more than 25 years of experience in water quality engineering, including 13 years with the N.C. Division of Water Quality. He is a regulatory committee member of the WaterReuse Association, chair of the N.C. American Water Works Association - Water Environment Association water reuse committee, a member of the N.C. Chamber's environmental concerns policy committee, a director of the Central Carolina Chapter, and chair of the public policy committee of the Professional Engineers of North Carolina.

As a senior technical specialist with McKim & Creed, Safrit helps manage the planning and implementation of water reuse systems and programs, spray irrigation systems, and regulatory aspects of water/wastewater systems.

Solutions-IES, Inc.

Solutions-IES, Inc. is pleased to announce the **addition of Stephen Richardson, Ph.D., P.Eng**. Dr. Richardson obtained his Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences and Engineering from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to earning his doctorate degree, Dr. Richardson was employed as an Environmental Professional Consulting Engineer in Edmonton, Canada.

Dr. Richardson specializes in the application of bioremediation strategies to treat hazardous compounds in soil, groundwater, and

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surface water at a range of contaminated sites, including former manufactured gas plants, munitions facilities, gas stations, and oil/gas refineries. His consulting and academic experience encompasses the design and operation of conventional remediation techniques as well as the testing of novel applications. Dr. Richardson’s background in Environmental Engineering and remediation brings a wealth of knowledge that will immediately impact our many client projects.

“Dr. Richardson is an enormous asset to our team,” said Ann Borden, CEO/President of Solutions-IES. “His balance of real-world consulting experience and academic knowledge allows Solutions-IES to continue bridging the gap between traditional environmental services and innovative remedial technologies. Dr. Richardson increases the Company’s strength and his passion aligns with our creative community of entrepreneurs.”

Solutions-IES is proud to welcome Dr. Richardson, a dynamic professional who will help support Solutions-IES’ continued commitment to our clients and develop new remediation technologies that are scientific, responsive and cost-effective.

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Michelle Matera has been **appointed Marketing Team Leader** for Stantec’s Southeast and Great Lakes Regions.

Based in Raleigh, NC, Matera has been with Stantec for more than five years, most recently as Senior Marketing Coordinator. In the role of Marketing Team Leader, Matera will have oversight of marketing and business development support throughout the two regions, encompassing offices in 15 states. She will be involved with formal proposal and presentation development, project opportunity / lead tracking, marketing communications development and support, and other marketing and business development activities.

Matera currently serves as the Chair for the Marketing and Public Relations Forum for the NC chapter of ACEC.

Summit Consulting - Engineering, Architecture and Surveying, PLLC

Michael “Mike” T. Brandon has **passed the Principals and Practices of Land Surveying Exam and received his Professional Land Surveying License.**

Mike, son of Sam Brandon, is a native of Roxboro, NC. He, his wife Lynn, along with their three children, Sammy, Michie, and Emma, reside in Person County.

The staff of Summit Consulting is very proud of Mike and would like for you to join them in congratulating him for his excellent achievement.

Vaughn & Melton

Vaughn & Melton (V&M), a leading southeast engineering and surveying services firm, has announced **Reece Schuler, PE** as the new **Office Leader in its Charlotte, North Carolina office** located at 3809-L Beam Road. Schuler will lead projects for the firm’s Charlotte-area client base.

“We are continually looking for ways to expand our engineering services and we are excited to have Reece make the move,” said DeWayne Brown, Regional Vice President. “He brings a wealth of engineering experience and knowledge to the table.”

Schuler, a North Carolina native, brings more than 15 years of experience to Vaughn & Melton. After earning a bachelor of engineering degree at North Carolina State University, Schuler worked for the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s Roadway Design Unit. Joining V&M in 1998, he has managed numerous transportation, site development, subsurface utility engineering and survey projects. He has expertise in planning, designing, and preparing construction documents, as well as project construction administration.

WK Dickson & Co., Inc.

WK Dickson continues to grow and is pleased to welcome several new members to the team. **Joining the firm** are **Eric Wagner** as a senior project manager with the water and wastewater group; **Randall Brookshire** is a project engineer with the watershed services group; and **Kristel Weldon** is their new administrative office manager.

The Climb for Water campaign, which was founded by WK Dickson staff and first featured in the September 2010 issue the NC Report, has **grown remarkably over the last couple of months.** So far the group has raised over \$6,000 for Water for People. There are also now four climbers on the expedition team, representing WK Dickson, Duke Energy, and CH2M Hill. In addition to the climbers, other engineering firms have stepped up to donate time and money to the cause through exclusive sponsorships, including HDR and GHD. There is still time to become a sponsor and join this impressive group of companies. Go to climbforwater.org for more information.

*To submit your company’s news or positions available for inclusion in the next NC REPORT, please email your news items to Karen Lee at the ACEC/NC office by **CLICKING HERE.***