



e-Newsletter, Issue 5, September 2011

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Announcement

ASCE President Kathy Caldwell's Blog

ASCE-IS members are requested to check the following web link of ASCE President Ms. Kathy Caldwell's Blog, where she has written about her recent visit to India in June 2011.

<http://blogs.asce.org/president2011/2011/07/29/india-sections-review-renewal-and-revival-sets-a-great-example/>

Details of the Presidential visit with the meetings, events, were covered in our July e-Newsletter.

1.0 Assembly and Training Conference

The 5th Assembly Training Conference of ASCE Region 10 was held at New Delhi on September 18 and 19, 2011. This training conference was organized by ASCE to impart necessary training to the leadership, who are currently operating their ASCE Sections in different countries.

Delegates from a number of ASCE Region 10 countries were invited along with members of the current National and Regional level Interim Executive Committee of ASCE India Section (as given below). On behalf of ASCE, Mrs. Meggan Maughan-Brown, Director for International Relations and Strategic Planning, was instrumental in organizing the ATC.

ASCE Region 10 Delegates -

Mr. Pratim K Ghose, Governor
Prof. Dr. Albert T. Yeung, Region Director and Chair

ASCE Thailand Section –

Mr. Piya Saitharatanapongse and
Mr. Stephen A Vianelli

ASCE India Section Interim Executive Committee -

Dr. Anil K Kar,
Dr. Ayanangshu Dey, and
Mr. Biman Gati Gupta

ASCE India Section Mentor –

Prof. Dr. G M Sabnis

ASCE India Eastern Region (ER)-

Mr. Balaram Mukherjee and
Mr. Srirup Mitra

ASCE India Western Region (WR)-

Prof. Dr. Urmil Dave and
Mr. Ringshia Ravindra

ASCE India Section Northern Region (NR)–

Mr. Satish Kumar Vij and
Mr. Arif Ali Siddiqui

ASCE India Section Southern Region (SR) –

Prof. Dr. G L Sivakumar Babu.

ASCE Bangladesh International Section –

Mr. Mohammad Abdullah

5th Assembly Training Conference of ASCE in Session at New Delhi,



Membership Advancement

If you are currently an Affiliate or Associate Member of ASCE

ASCE-IS encourages you to upgrade your membership and become a full Member

Please contact us at asce.is.email@gmail.com or member@asce.org for guidance

1.1 1st Day of ATC, September 18

On the first day, September 18, 2011, all the attendees arrived and met over luncheon to socialize with their colleagues and get introduced to the invited delegates.

First phase of the training got started at 2:00 pm with Prof. Dr. Albert Yeung, Region Director and Chair, welcoming all to the ATC and briefly outlining the idea behind organizing the event. He later requested Dr. A K Kar to give a welcome address on behalf of ASCE-IS playing host to the conference.

Dr. Kar was very brief in his address and welcomed all present not only to the ATC but also to the Indian Capital. He wished everybody an informative and productive conference. He requested the attendees to introduce themselves.

A request was put up whether anybody would like to add anything to the agenda. The agenda, as presented, was then officially adopted for the meeting.

The opening presentation was given by Prof. Yeung to give a brief overview of ASCE as a Civil Engineering Society and things that it does to promote the profession. His presentation also aimed at conveying the global presence of ASCE in different countries to promulgate its ideas and objectives in support of Civil Engineering.

The next presentation was by Mrs. Maughan-Brown on the Vision 2025 document prepared by ASCE (*"The Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025"*). The vision document was also supported by a roadmap on how these objectives could be achieved (*"Achieving the Vision for Civil Engineering in 2025: A Roadmap for the Profession"*). Interested members can visit the following web link and download pdf copies of these documents to find out more.

<http://content.asce.org/vision2025/index.html>

Next, Mrs. Maughan-Brown went on to talk about ASCE's Strategic Planning and its associated aspects. These included strategic plan of ASCE, its strategic priorities, and strategic management for leaders, who were involved in various ASCE operations and technical activities.

After these presentations, the floor was opened for an open forum for the attendees to raise questions, queries, and freely interact with the delegates and amongst themselves.

The meeting was over by 4:30 pm. The delegates and the attendees got together at around 7:30 pm for dinner. In between this time, the Sikkim Earthquake of magnitude 6.8 in Richter Scale was felt.

1.2 2nd Day of ATC, September 19

Second day of ATC started at 9 am on the following morning with observance of 1 minute silence for the deceased in Sikkim Earthquake. Prof. Yeung opened the proceedings with a recap of previous day's discussions. The emphasis was on sustainability with a global context which was the duty of Civil Engineers to oversee. The primary topic of his presentation was, making everybody aware of fundamentals of sustainable engineering, discussion on various committees formed by ASCE on sustainability, and going over briefly through the

Delegates and Invitees at the ASCE Assembly and Training Conference, New Delhi



Section Dues

The amount is Rs. 450 and the last date of collection of dues is December 31, 2011

It is mandatory for all members to pay their Section Dues

Members are encouraged to use Electronic Transfer of Dues to ASCE Bank Account directly

Student and Life Members of ASCE are exempted from paying Section Dues

Please send in your dues on time to receive your ASCE-IS Gifts

ASCE's sustainability brochure.

It was further stressed by Mrs. Maughan-Brown that for future development works ASCE had identified three critical aspects namely Sustainability, Environment, and Economics. The relevance of these topics to the changing global scenario was briefly discussed.

Prof. Yeung described the ASCE Region 10 from an administrative standpoint. He also let everybody know some basic information about the different Region 10 Sections in various countries all over the world, the difference between Group and Section. He also delineated how every Section, Branch, and Student Chapter could be active in spreading the motto of ASCE and Civil Engineering across borders. Prof. Yeung emphasized the importance of inducting new members and retaining them by giving them service and value for their support.

The meeting was adjourned for an hour for Lunch. In the post-lunch session, Mrs. Maughan-Brown took the stage next for a presentation on connecting with members using various networking tools, a reasonable detailed demonstration of the ASCE Website, resources available for members to share, a short demonstration of the ASCE-India Section website recently set up, and also some guidance on "how to set up a website of any particular Section/ Region.

Mrs. Maughan-Brown went on to present some really great statistics about how "emailing" can be turned into a most effective means of contacting members. Some interesting statistics were shared by her with tips for making members read the e-mails sent out, its periodicity, frequency, emphasizing on

its content, and also the time of circulation. The attendees were impressed by the way such statistics could be collated and used in a productive way to reach out to members more effectively.

Guidance was also given on organizing events, technical seminars, student group activities, fund raising, induction of new members, attracting students and retaining them as members after they graduate, and various marketing options. The remaining portion of the training session was opened up to the participants for an interactive session. Various issues were raised by the participants and those were discussed by the delegates.

The 5th ATC of ASCE came to a close at around 4:30 pm with Prof. Yeung declaring the proceedings closed.

2.0 1st Meeting of ASCE-India Section Interim Executive Committee, September 20

The 1st meeting of ASCE-IS Interim Executive Committee was held at New Delhi on September 20, 2011 between 9.00 am to 4 pm.

The meeting started with the President Dr. Anil K Kar welcoming all with a brief note. Thereafter the members present in the meeting briefly introduced themselves. Among the attendees were, Dr. A K Kar, President, ASCE-IS, Prof. Dr. G M Sabnis, Mentor, ASCE-IS, Dr. H Banerjee, Region 10 Governor, ASCE (Over Skype), Mr. P K Ghose, Region 10 Governor, ASCE, Mrs. M Maughan-Brown, Director, International Relations, ASCE, Mr. B Mukherjee, Vice-President, ASCE-IS (ER), Mr. S K Vij, Vice-President, ASCE-IS (NR), Prof. Dr. G L S K Babu, Vice-President, ASCE-IS (SR), Mr. R Rabindra, Acting

Attendees of ASCE-IS 1st ExCom Meeting



Vice-President, ASCE-IS (WR), Dr. A Dey, Secretary, ASCE-IS, Mr. B G Gupta, Treasurer, ASCE-IS, Mr. S Mitra, Secretary, ASCE-IS (ER), Mr. A Siddiqui, Secretary, ASCE-IS (NR), and Prof. Dr. U Dave, Secretary, ASCE-IS (WR).

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

After the introductory session a motion to approve the agenda was raised by Dr. Dey and seconded by Prof. Babu. No additional points were added to the agenda at that time and the agenda as presented was unanimously accepted.

2.2 Presentations by Regional Heads

The session continued with the brief presentation of regional activities. Mr. Mukherjee of Eastern Region took the opportunity to mention about past activities of his region including opening of a bank account. He briefed all about some future events; e.g. field trip in November, technical seminar in December, and hosting guest speaker from US in February 2012. For the February event, it was proposed to have a Master Series lectures by Dr. Gene Corley, scheduled to visit India.

Mr. S K Vij of Northern Region addressed the need for seed money for the regions to operate effectively. He spoke about the requirement of sharing a portion of the Section dues. The upcoming student competition event was also announced. It was also mentioned by him that ASCE-IS (NR) has added 11 new ASCE-IS members and upgraded 5 existing members. They were expecting 9-10 new members to join ASCE by October. Mr. Vij was aware of Dr. Corely's visit and proposed to host his lecture at New Delhi.

The Western Region presented their progress-

-ive increase in activities. Prof. Dave showed a brief presentation about their student activities in the past and future along with Mr. Rabindra briefly describing about the seminar hosted recently in Mumbai.

Prof. Babu from Southern Region mentioned that they were currently in the process of getting organized and were planning future activities.

2.3 Governing Body and Documents of ASCE-IS

It was proposed in the meeting to finalize the Governing Body of the Interim Executive Committee of ASCE-India Section. It was decided that a Central Committee would be formed constituting The President, Secretary, Treasurer and one Member (Vice-President) from each of the 4 Regional Committees. The positions as mentioned earlier were unanimously accepted by all present in the meeting. It was mentioned here that Mr. Arvind Shah would be the Vice-President from ASCE-IS (WR).

The Executive committee could reach a consensus on proposed Constitution for the ASCE-India Section. This was accepted by all in the meeting.

Due to shortage of time, the ByLaws could not be discussed, however, the ExCom members agreed to take it up shortly on a conference call with Mrs. Maughan-Brown and Dr. Banerjee to finalize this. Upon approval of these document by ASCE, elections could be held for a democratically elected body of officers who would then operate the ASCE-IS activities.

The meeting came to a close at around 4:30pm with a vote of thanks from the President.

3.0 National Level Technical Festival "CREATRZ 2011", September 23, New Delhi

ASCE-IS Northern Region hosted its first National Level Concrete Design Competition and Mega Quiz Event (named "CREATRZ 2011") at the SRM University, Ghaziabad NCR, India. This comprised a 2-day Civil Engineering festival on September 23 and 24, 2011, and was organized by SRM University at their Delhi-Meerut Road Campus.

Dr. G M Sabnis, ASCE Distinguished Member and Fellow, was the guest of honor for the event. He, along with Mr. Satish Kumar Vij, Vice President, ASCE-IS (NR) and Mr. Arif Siddiqui, Secretary, ASCE-

ASCE-IS invites applications from donors for space in e-Newsletter of ASCE-IS.

Please contact Dr. A K Kar, ASCE-IS President at asce.is.email@gmail.com for details.

To get involved with ASCE, please send an email to member@asce.org

**Prof. Dr. G M Sabnis, ASCE Dist. Member and Fellow
Lighting the Lamp to Inaugurate the Event**



IS (NR) were felicitated by Head of Civil Engineering Department, Dr. Vineet Bajaj on the occasion.

Dr. Sabnis addressed the gathering with his views on the importance of organizing such events to promote Civil Engineering amongst university students. Later, Mr. S K Vij later shared his views about formation of an ASCE International Student Chapter. Mr. A Siddiqui, Secretary, ASCE-IS (NR) coordinated the entire exercise of conducting the Design Competition and Mega Quiz with his counterparts of SRM University and also supervised these events on September 23.

This event was open to all and was a grand success as overall more than 500 students from 10 different colleges participated in separate competitions in this technical extravaganza. Over the course of this event, 71 students applied for ASCE student membership and 3 faculty members applied for ASCE membership.

3.1 Concrete Design Competition

The Student Design Competition hosted participants from 3rd and 4th year who took part enthusiastically. These participants were given to solve simple but tricky concrete design problem comprising design of slabs, cantilever beams, simply supported beams, and columns, etc.

About 35 students from 10 colleges participated in this competition. The winner was selected based on correct design approach and calculation method adopted. The Top 3 winners were awarded ASCE Souvenirs.

3.2 Mega Quiz

The following day, a double round Mega Quiz for the student participants. In the first round, 20 objective type questions related to basic concrete and steel design were given to 176 participating students. The time allotted was 15 minutes. Top 10 students were chosen for the second round, which was an audio visual round. 10 buzzer round questions were asked and finally top 3 students were selected. The awards of this program were sponsored by ACC Cement Company.

ASCE-IS (NR) took this opportunity to reach out to the students in an effective manner and to substantiate our commitment to support and promote student activities of ASCE-IS in Engineering Institutions across India.

ASCE-IS (WR) leadership would like to thank the Organizing Committee of SRM University for their support and cooperation in organizing this event. The Vice President and Secretary of ASCE-IS (NR) propose to take this further with the start of a student group in this campus next year.

Students Taking the Quiz Competition

