



e-Newsletter, Issue 6, October 2011

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Section Update

The Interim Executive Committee of ASCE-IS had their first meeting at New Delhi on September 20, 2011, to finalize the Constitution and Bylaws apart from discussing other issues. The Committee is still in the process of finalizing these governing documents. Once these documents are final, these will be submitted to ASCE's Governing Documents Committee (GDC) for final approval.

On approval, an election will be held amongst ASCE-IS members to elect the officers who would take over from the current Interim Executive Committee and assume operation of the Section. It is most likely that the election will be held within the first quarter of 2012.

1.0 Meggan's Visit to ASCE-IS Western Region

Responding to an invitation from Mr. Arvind Shah, Vice-President, ASCE-IS (WR), Mrs. Meggan Maughan-Brown, Director of International Relations and Strategic Planning, ASCE made her maiden visit to Mumbai from September 11 to 13. She and her husband Mr. Peter Brown was received at the Maharaja Chatrapati Shivaji Terminal of Mumbai Airport by Prof. Dr. Gajanan Sabnis, Dist. Member and Fellow, ASCE.

ASCE-IS (WR) Executive Committee members, Mr. Arvind Shah, Prof. Dr. Urnil Dave (Secretary), Mr. Ravindra Ringshia (Joint Secretary/Treasurer), and Prof. Sabnis met Mrs. Maughan-Brown for breakfast the following morning. Various issues pertaining to ASCE activities in Western Region were briefly discussed. After the meeting she was taken for a tour of the city of Mumbai, the Financial Capital of India, to show some of its heritage structures and monuments.

A reception was organized on behalf of Mrs. Maughan-Brown at the Cricket Club of India. This was attended by about 40 eminent ASCE members who got a very good opportunity to directly interact with her. She addressed the ASCE members about the aims of ASCE, possible future activities, and shared a road map for its growth in India. The lecture was followed by a question and answer session where various operational and organizational problems related to current reorganization of ASCE-IS were discussed.

The meeting was followed by a seminar on "Vision India 20-20" which was attended by a good number of delegates. The seminar was followed by cocktail and dinner.

A meeting was organized at the Indian Institute of Technology, Powai by Prof. Dr. S L Dhingra, M.ASCE, his associates, and some students on September 13, 2011. Mrs. Maughan-Brown briefed the attendees about ASCE's activities and ideas specially crafted for students and faculty members. The proceedings were followed by an interacting session. It was proposed to set up a student chapter of ASCE at IIT-Mumbai under the stewardship of Prof. Dhingra and in coordination with Prof. Dr. Ravi Sinha, another active member of ASCE. The meeting was adjourned with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Maughan-Brown and Prof. Dhingra by Mr. Arvind Shah.

Mrs. Meggan Maughan-Brown addressing the Audience at "Vision India 20-20"



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

The meeting was attended by Dr. Sabnis and Mr. Ringshia. Mrs. Maughan-Brown left for Delhi in the afternoon.

2.0 ASCE-IS Western Region's Seminar on "Vision India 20-20"

On the evening of September 12, ASCE-IS (WR) organized a meeting of ASCE members at Cricket Club of India to host a seminar on "Vision India 20-20". It addressed India's Civil Engineering and Infrastructure vision for the future and comprised two separate sessions. It attracted a significant number of ASCE-IS members in and around Mumbai area.

Session – I:

Meeting of ASCE-IS WR members with Mrs. Maughan-Brown (5:00-7:00 pm)

The seminar was presided over by Mr. Arvind Shah, Vice-President, ASCE-IS (WR) and Managing Director of ICG Engineering Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai.

The meeting started with a welcome address by Mr. Shah highlighting the first ever visit of any ASCE-HO Director to Mumbai. He briefly talked about the past and ongoing ASCE activities in Western Region and emphasized that ASCE should act as 'Knowledge Center' for the engineering fraternity in India.

Prof. Dr. G Sabnis took this opportunity to introduce Mrs. Maughan-Brown with all present and shared his long association and work experience with her.

Mrs. Maughan-Brown addressed the audience specifying the aims and objectives of ASCE and explained its modified organizational set up in India.

Her talk was followed by a question and answer session with the participants. The meeting was attended by about 40 very senior and eminent ASCE-IS members. After this session, Mr. R G Desai, a leading Consultant from Ahmadabad, gave a vote of thanks.

Session – II:

"Vision India 20-20", (7.00-9.00 pm)

After a short tea break, the "Vision India 20-20" got under way. Mr. N D Patel, M.ASCE and Managing Director of Aristo Group, chaired this session. Mrs. Maughan-Brown graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. The theme of the seminar was intricacy of constructional laws and interpretation of construction contracts by judges and future of infrastructure growth in India that was expected to shape and influence all round growth of India's booming construction industry.

The speakers for the sessions and the topics of their presentations were,

- Dr. Kirty Dave, leading Techno-legal Consultant from Mumbai, spoke on "Latest trends in construction law" and its interpretation by the court.
- Mr. V Suresh, Ex-CMD, HUDCO, New Delhi, talked about "Future growth of Infrastructure in India" sharing interesting facts, figures, and statistics.
- Mr. Alan Pottage of JSW Severfield Structures Ltd., Mumbai, presented his topic on "Latest trends in steel structure" and construction of some important steel structures.

Delegates and Invitees at Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai



Section Dues

ASCE-IS is now collecting Rs. 450 from its members as Section Dues

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

The presentations were both interesting and informative, and were well appreciated by the audience. The event observed presence of eminent Civil Engineers like Prof. Dr. Soli Aarciwala, Dist. M.ASCE, Mr. Satish Dhupelia, well-known consultant, and Mr. Jambekar, Ex-GM and CE, CIDCO, apart from other prominent Civil Engineers, senior ASCE members, officials from various Government and Private organizations.

Civil Engineering students also participated in this technical event to learn more about new ways of addressing current challenges facing the construction industry. ASCE-IS (WR) ExCom members, Prof. Ravi Sinha, IIT Mumbai, and Mr. Hiten Mahimtura, a renowned Consultant, presented bouquets and mementos to the invited speakers and distinguished guests. Special thanks were conveyed to Mr. Rajendra Desai, M.ASCE, eminent Consultant from Gujarat, and Prof. Dr. Urmil Dave, ASCE-IS (WR), who came all the way from Ahmadabad to attend the seminar.

Mr. Ravindra Ringshia, Joint Secretary and Treasurer, ASCE-IS (WR) and Managing Director of Ringshia Group, offered concluding remarks and a vote of thanks. Mr. Ringshia ended the seminar by mentioning the upcoming events, future interactions within members, and thanked the members for their continued support of ASCE-IS (WR).

The leadership of ASCE-IS (WR) gratefully acknowledged the Sponsors of the seminar M/s. JSW Severfield Structures Ltd., Mumbai for their active support.

The proceedings were followed by fellowship, cocktails, and dinner.

3.0 ASCE-IS WR's Activity in Ahmadabad

3.1 Technical Talk

The first meeting of ASCE-IS (WR) members in and around Ahmadabad, Gujarat, was convened by Prof. Dr. Urmil Dave, who organized the event jointly with the Indian Concrete Institute (ICI), Gujarat Center, at the "Foundations - Ambuja Knowledge Centre", Ahmadabad on September 7. The date incidentally was also being hailed as "Concrete Day" in India. Prof. G Sabnis was the invited as the Guest speaker for the evening.

The presentation was attended by more than 50 people comprising of ASCE members, invited guests, professionals, academicians, and students. Dr. R N Vakil, F.ASCE, welcomed Prof. Sabnis by organizing a bouquet in his honor.

The topic of Prof Sabnis was on "Design, Development and Execution of Sustainable Green House". He greeted the participants mentioning the current efforts being made for rejuvenating ASCE-IS.

A view of the Attendees at Ahmadabad



He also encouraged the audience to join ASCE and get involved in its activities.

Expert talk of Dr. Sabnis was directed at viewing concrete construction from a different perspective of sustainability. He opined that although facilities had been constructed in the last several centuries that had served the needs of mankind, time had now come to take a retrospective view on where we had been and where we would like to be. He shared his experience to build a unique award-winning house, perceived, designed and built, which culminated in a book written by him, titled "Greenhouse: Energy Efficient Home".

Interest and enthusiasm amongst the audience was recognizable. The question-answer session was productive. Prof. R N Vakil congratulated the speaker for his presentation and also offered him a memento. He also addressed the audience and discussed understanding of the requirement of new material and technology for proper development.

Concrete Casting during Concrete Mix Design Workshop



Finally, the vote of thanks was given, followed by a dinner giving the opportunity to the audience for a closer interaction. Dr. Dave conveyed his gratitude to Mr. Arvind Shah, Vice-President, ASCE-IS Western Region and other officers for their guidance and support. He also thanked Mr. Chetan Parikh, M.ASCE, Sarnar Buildtech Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad, and Mr. Umesh Soni, Ambuja Cements Ltd., Ahmedabad for their help.

3.2 Student Activity

The students of Nirma University, under the guidance of their faculty adviser, Prof. Dr. Urmil Dave, recently participated in the following activities. These students are in the process of establishing an ASCE International Student Chapter at their University.

- Concrete Mix Design Workshop on July 16 and 23, 2011 (Sponsored by Jaypee Cements),
- Site visit to Railway Workshop on August 20, 2011,
- Workshop on "Demonstration of Repair and Strengthening Techniques on RC Elements" [sponsored by Ushtha Infinity Construction (India) Pvt. Ltd.] on August 27, 2011,
- Inauguration of ASCE International Student Group with ICI Chapter meeting on September 07, 2011,
- Concrete Quiz Competition on September 8, 2011 (sponsored by Jaypee Cements),
- Slab Model Testing Competition on September 10, 2011, and
- Concrete Mix Design Competition between various colleges of Ahmadabad on September 16 and October 14, 2011 (Sponsored by Jaypee Cements)

In case you are not getting regular ASCE/ASCE-IS emails, Please send us your contact details

Name _____

ASCE Membership No. _____

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Please send your details by Email to international@asce.org or

By post to "President, ASCE-IS, BC 96 Salt Lake City, Sector I, Kolkata 700 064"