



January 2025 Newsletter

The Arch Newsletter Team

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Connect with #asceSTL!

Upcoming Section Events

January

07 - The Arch January 2026

15 - [January Section Luncheon](#)

19 - [MLK Day of Service](#)

30 - [2026 CRYMC/MRLC \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

February

02 - The Arch February 2026

04 - [Engineer's Day at State Capitol](#)

11 - [Int'l Day of Women & Girls in Science](#)

14 - Valentine's Day

22 - [National Engineers Week](#)

26 - [GI STL Quarterly Meeting](#)

28 - [SLSC SciFest](#)

2026 Section Board of Directors

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From the President

Dear St. Louis Section Members,

Happy New Year! I hope you all took some time to slow down and are feeling refreshed for the year ahead. It was a pleasure seeing so many of you at our Holiday Social in December, and I am

excited to carry that energy into 2026. We have a full calendar to start the year, and I encourage you to take advantage of these upcoming opportunities to connect and get involved!

We will kick off the year with our **January Section Luncheon** on January 15th. **Derek Hoeflerlin** will be presenting on *Way Beyond Bigness*, a design-research project that studies the Mekong, Mississippi and Rhine River basins. I hope you can join us!

GBA

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January also marks the start of the development of the [Report Card for Missouri Infrastructure](#). The Missouri Infrastructure Report Card assigns letter grades to sub-categories of infrastructure in our State. It serves as a critical tool to inform the public and legislators about infrastructure health and investment needs. The [St. Louis Section](#) and [Kansas City Section](#) are leading this effort and seeking volunteers. If you are interested in participating in this effort, reach out to [Alison Graves](#), Government Relations Chair.

February is always a busy month, with several opportunities for you to engage. **Engineers Week** will take place from February 22–28th, and there will be many local activities taking place. We will participate in the [Saint Louis Science Center's SciFest](#) on February 28th with interactive civil engineering displays for K-12 students. We will need volunteers for this fun event.

On February 4th, [#asceSTL](#) will once again team up with [ASCE Kansas City Section](#), [ACEC Missouri](#), [APWA Missouri Chapter](#), and [MSPE](#) for **Engineer's Day at the Capitol** in Jefferson City. This is our chance to collectively advocate for the engineering profession and emphasize the vital role our projects play in Missouri communities.

Thanks for your continued commitment to the St. Louis Section as we ELEVATE into 2026.

Melissa Rettig

2026 St. Louis Section President

January 2026 Section Luncheon

[#asceSTL](#) is proud to partner with [Environmental & Water Resources Institute St. Louis Chapter](#) (EWRI STL) to host **Derek Hoeflerlin** at our upcoming Section Luncheon. He will present on **Way Beyond Bigness**, a design-research project that studies the Mekong, Mississippi and Rhine River basins.



Derek Hoferlin, AIA, Affiliate ASLA

Derek is a registered architect, principal of [dhd] derek hoferlin design and the Raymond E. Maritz Professor of Architecture at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis, where he is currently Chair of the Landscape Architecture program. His teaching, research, and professional work have been awarded, presented, and published internationally. Derek directs "Way Beyond Bigness: The Need for a Watershed Architecture," conducting comparative research among global deltas and watersheds—primarily the Mekong, Mississippi and Rhine, the focus and eponymous title of his recently published book (Applied Research + Design Publishing, 2023). Derek holds Bachelor and Master of Architecture degrees from Tulane University and a post-professional Master of Architecture degree from Yale University.

Way Beyond Bigness is a design-research project that studies the Mekong, Mississippi and Rhine River basins, with particular focus on multi-scaled, water-based infrastructural transformation. The book proposes a simple, adaptive framework that utilizes a three-part, integrative design-research methodology, structured as: Appreciate + Analyze, Speculate + Synthesize, and Collaborate + Catalyze. To do such, *Way Beyond Bigness* realigns watersheds and architecture across multiple scales (sites to river basins), disciplines (ecologists to economists), narratives (hyperboles to pragmatics), and venues (academics to



professionals), defined as Watershed Architecture. The book highlights the author's comprehensive work of over more than a decade, including in depth field research across the Mekong, Mississippi and Rhine, along with a diverse body of academic and multi-disciplinary professional collaborations and contributions, ranging from the speculative to the community-based.

Register for the event!

Register by January 8th, EOD

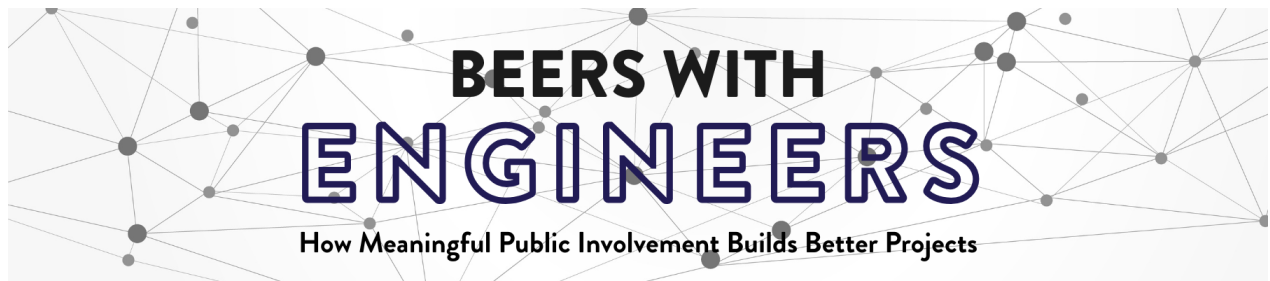
Maggie Cox, Programs Chair

When: Thu, January 15th @ 12:00 pm

Registration at 11:30, lunch served at 11:45, and program begins at 12:00. One (1) PDH is available from this program for attendees.

Where: [Il Monastero Banquet Center](#), Saint Louis University

Join Trailnet for their Beers with Engineers event!



Trailnet invites [#asceSTL](#) members to **Beers with Engineers: How Meaningful Public Involvement Builds Better Projects** presented by [Great River Engineering](#), an event built for engineers, planners, landscape architects, designers, and development professionals with a passion for transportation! It will take place on Thursday, Feb. 19th from 3:30 - 6 p.m. at [UMSL at Grand Center](#).

Beers with Engineers seeks to equip transportation professionals with the tools and connections that they need to thrive. It will include an engaging panel, collaborative activities, networking, snacks, and — you guessed it — local beer and other beverages. The focus this year is the use of public involvement to develop more effective projects.

Oh, and **did we mention that it's free?** Just register in advance to ensure your spot!

[Register for Beers with Engineers event](#)

Engineer's Day at the Missouri State Capitol

Engineers Day At the Missouri State Capitol

February 4, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. | Jefferson City, MO



MSPE's **2026 Capitol Day** will be held as part of the Engineer's Day at the Capitol with ACEC Missouri, APWA and ASCE on February 4th. This provides an opportunity to bring an even larger group of engineers to the capitol and represent our profession.

There is no charge to attend this event but ask for you to pre-register. Registration opens soon!

[Registration Page for 2026 Engineers Day](#)

2026 Regions 3, 6, 7 Multi-Region Leadership Conference



#asceSTL wishes the best for Section professionals, younger members, and students attending 2026 MRLC in Chicago later this month! The purpose of the Multi-Region Leadership Conference is to provide a venue for upcoming leaders to gain knowledge of the Society and their Region, interact with students, younger members, section, branch, and institute leaders, while gaining personal leadership skills and learning the importance of networking.

2026 ASCE Regions 3, 6, & 7 MRLC

Support the 2026 ASCE Mid-America Student Symposium



Join us in supporting the **2026 ASCE Mid-America Student Symposium**, cohosted by Southern Illinois University Carbondale & Southern Illinois University Edwardsville from April 9-11, 2026. Students will compete in Concrete Canoe, Steel Bridge, surveying, and more.

Sponsorships provide vital support and offer great visibility with future engineers and faculty. Consider partnering to help grow the next generation of civil engineers!

For details, contact the [ASCE SIUE Student Chapter](#) or [visit their giving page](#).

[See the 2026 Mid-America Sponsorship Letter](#)

Younger Member Group (YMG)



Welcome to 2026! We had a great time at Anheuser-Busch Brewery last month and thank **Special Inspections & Design** for sponsoring. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming happy hour!



THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS



#asceSTlymg

Upcoming YMG Events

- January Happy Hour
 - TBD
- February Happy Hour
 - TBD

Brandon Hamel, E.I., M.ASCE

YMG President

Oates Associates, Inc.



Environmental & Water Resources Institute (EWRI) St. Louis Chapter



ENVIRONMENTAL &
WATER RESOURCES
INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter

WATER
INSTITUTE
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

EWRI of ASCE - St. Louis Chapter

2026 Environmental & Water Resources Spring Symposium and Workshop

WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE

You are invited to attend a full-day educational symposium and workshop for professional development and to learn about water-related technical topics.

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, March 6, 2026

Technical Program 8AM to 4PM

Location:

DuBourg Hall at
Saint Louis University
221 N Grand Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63103

Stay tuned for
registration
information!

Registration will include:

Up to 6 Professional
Development Hours,
continental breakfast,
and lunch.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Now accepting abstracts for presentations. Abstracts should be 1-2 paragraphs summarizing your presentation topic. Presentation time slots can be between 30 minutes to 1 hour. Topic ideas include:

Construction challenges
Permitting and compliance
Case studies
Wastewater treatment

Adapting to climate change
Emerging and innovative
technologies
Water quality
Hydrology & hydraulics

Nature-based solutions
Stream restoration
Sediment transport
Sustainability

Submit an abstract to skeeven@hrqgreen.com by December 5, 2025.

You will be notified by January 2, 2026 if your presentation was selected.

For more information, please contact:

Samantha Keeven
Spring Symposium/Workshop Chair
ASCE-EWRI St. Louis Chapter
skeeven@hrqgreen.com

Upcoming EWRI STL Events

- [2026 Water, Water, Everywhere](#)
 - Fri, Mar 6th, 8am-4pm
 - DuBourg Hall, SLU

Jiaman Xu, P.E., ENV SP, PMP,
M.ASCE

EWRI STL Chair

Illinois American Water



Geo-Institute (G-I) St. Louis Chapter



Adopt an Engineer

Students: We are looking to engage with students who have interest in geotechnical/geological/environmental profession, or who simply would like to understand more about the profession. Connect with professionals, young and seasoned, from various sectors, in one-on-one calls to ask questions and learn more about the industry.

Professionals: Volunteer an hour of your time to meet with students and help answer questions they might have. Discuss what you do in your industry, what a typical day looks like, what courses were the most beneficial, etc. An opportunity to give back

to the student organizations!

Share the QR code to those who may be interested.

Register here for this program!

Call for Case Histories Night Topics

The [Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter](#) is accepting presentation topics for our **annual Case Histories Night**. The committee is seeking speakers to provide a 60-minute presentation focused on geotechnical engineering projects.

In addition, the Committee is also seeking potential student presenter. The student will have the opportunity to show case their research at the event. student research posters

will be on display during the registration/networking period, and selected students will give brief presentations on their topics. Free admission for students

Please submit presentation topics to [Travis Kassebaum](#) and [Zachary Fallert](#) prior to **March 13, 2026**.

Upcoming G-I Events

- [Quarterly Technical Session](#)
 - Thu, Feb 26th at 5pm
 - [Schlafly Bottleworks](#)

[Travis Kassebaum, P.E.,
M.ASCE](#)
G-I STL Chair
Terracon



JOBS CORNER

[VIEW PARTNER JOB POSTINGS](#)

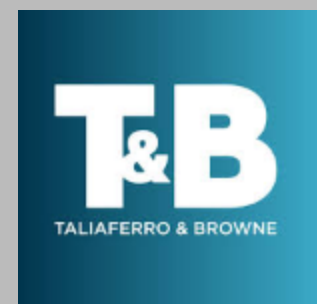
GEOTECHNICAL STAFF ENGINEER

SCI Engineering, Inc. - St. Charles, MO; O'Fallon, IL



STAFF ENGINEER

Taliaferro & Browne, Inc. - St. Louis, MO



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ASCE St. Louis Section

St. Louis, MO

asceSTL.org

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