



March 2026 Newsletter

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Upcoming Section Events

March

03 - The Arch March 2026

04 - [World Engineering Day](#)

06 - [Water, Water, Everywhere](#)

10 - [Section Luncheon](#)

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15 - [STL Board Nominations Due](#)

15 - [Society Committee Apps Due](#)

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18-20 - [ASCE Legislative Fly-In](#)

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2026 Section Board of Directors

President

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UES



From the President

The recent warmer weather and spring rains have me more than ready for a change of season! Much like our clocks this weekend, the St. Louis Section is springing forward with a packed calendar of events to keep us moving.

This past month, we celebrated **National Engineers Week**, a time dedicated to sparking interest in engineering careers and highlighting our positive impact on society. Our February kicked off early with a trip to the **Missouri State Capitol** on February 4th for the **2026 Engineers Day**. We partnered with the ASCE Kansas City Section, ACEC, APWA, and MSPE to plan an incredibly productive day. Several of our members met with legislators to

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discuss the public policies affecting our profession and to engage directly with our public officials. It was a great day of advocacy. I had the pleasure of presenting to the **ASCE S&T Student Chapter** in Rolla that same evening. Those students are so engaged and motivated – they have bright futures ahead of them!

On February 18th, over 200 local engineers gathered for the annual **E-Week luncheon** hosted by the Engineering Center of St. Louis. It was a wonderful opportunity for our members to network and celebrate the local engineering community. We wrapped up the month on February 28th at the **SLSC SciFest: Engineering Expo**, where eight (8) of our Section members volunteered to inspire the next generation. Our table was a huge hit, featuring everything from a shake table and a cable-stay bridge to virtual reality goggles. I want to send a huge thank you to every volunteer who made that day successful and interacted so enthusiastically with the participants.

As we enter March, we also celebrate **Women's History Month**. In our field, this is a vital time to recognize the contributions of women in engineering—past, present, and future. From the pioneering work on the Brooklyn Bridge to the modern infrastructure projects shaping St. Louis today, women continue to be a vital part of our engineering community.

I wish you all a wonderful, productive March. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming spring events!

Melissa Rettig

2026 St. Louis Section President

Support Students via Sponsoring the 2026 Mid-America Symposium



Join us in supporting the [2026 ASCE Mid-America Student Symposium](#), cohosted by **Southern Illinois University Carbondale** and **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville** from April 9-11, 2026. Students will compete in competitions such as Concrete Canoe, Steel Bridge, Surveying, Sustainable Solutions, 3D Printing, Concrete Bowling, and more!

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

Sponsorship Tiers:

- **Platinum Level (\$5,000+)**
- **Gold Level (\$2,500+)**
- **Silver Level (\$1,500+)**
- **Bronze Level (\$1,000+)**
- **Red Level (\$500+)**

For more details, do contact the [SIU Hosts directly via email!](#)

Attend the March Section Luncheon

#asceSTL is proud to partner with [Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter](#) (G-I STL) to host Joe Caciola at our upcoming Section Luncheon. He will present on Evaluating Existing Retaining Walls.



Performing forensic investigations into existing retaining walls or evaluating their susceptibility to new, changing conditions pose a unique set of challenges. Quite often, the original design assumptions or construction records are unavailable and determining existing, in-situ conditions can be logistically difficult and costly. This presentation will highlight some of these challenges and provide recommendations to aid professionals in their investigations and evaluations. Case studies will be presented to demonstrate these topics as they apply to real world scenarios.



Joe Caciola, P.E.

Joe is a senior engineer with 15 years of experience in geotechnical engineering. Prior to joining Terracon in 2025, he was an associate with a NYC based firm and managed their

geotechnical instrumentation department. He holds his BSCE'10 and MSCE'14 from Manhattan University (formerly, Manhattan College). His expertise includes field investigations (including geo-structural applications), support of excavation design, and implementations of in-situ monitoring solutions.

Register for the event!

Register by 4pm on March 4th

When: Tuesday, March 10 (11:30am to 1:00pm)

Where: Il Monastero, Saint Louis University

Maggie Cox, Programs Chair

Volunteers needed!

Looking to get more involved? The ASCE St. Louis Section, YMG, and STL Institute Chapters are calling for volunteers to support committees, events, and initiatives



throughout 2026. Dedicate your expertise, expand your network, and help strengthen our local engineering community! Society-level committee applications are also open to all members until mid-March for consideration.

Volunteer with a St. Louis Section committee or chapter!

Volunteer with a Society-level committee!

2026 Call for Board Nominations



The ASCE St. Louis Section Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations **for open Board positions**. [All members are invited to participate in this process!](#)

Open Board Positions are the following:

- **Director of Administration** (2-year term)
- **Treasurer** (1-year term, typically filled by an outgoing Director (as Official Nominee) if no Petition Nominees are submitted for Treasurer)
- **Secretary** (1-year term, typically filled by the outgoing Treasurer (as Official Nominee) if no Petition Nominees are submitted for Secretary)
- **President-Elect** (1-year term, typically filled by the outgoing Secretary (as Official Nominee) if no Petition Nominees are submitted for President-Elect)

Board members are expected to regularly attend monthly Section Board meetings and fulfill all responsibilities outlined in the [Section's Constitution, Bylaws and Handbook](#).

Accepting a position generally leads to progression through subsequent Board roles, resulting in a multi-year commitment. Board members will be installed at the Section's Annual Awards Dinner, with terms beginning **October 1, 2026**.

There are two ways for Section Members to participate in the process:

1. **Submit a Section Member's name for consideration by the Nominating Committee.** Submit a Section Member's name using the Nomination Form linked below. Names submitted are considered only by the Nominating Committee for potential selection as an Official Nominee. This does not guarantee selection or placement on the election ballot. The Committee will present at least one (1) Official Nominee for each open position to the Board.
2. **Self-Nomination as a Petition Nominee.** Complete the Nomination Form linked below and upload:
 - A petition with signatures from ten (10) eligible voting subscribing Section Members, and
 - A signed letter of intent to serve, if elected.

Petition Nominees meeting all requirements will be placed on the election ballot as a Petition Nominee. **All forms must be submitted by March 15, 2026.**

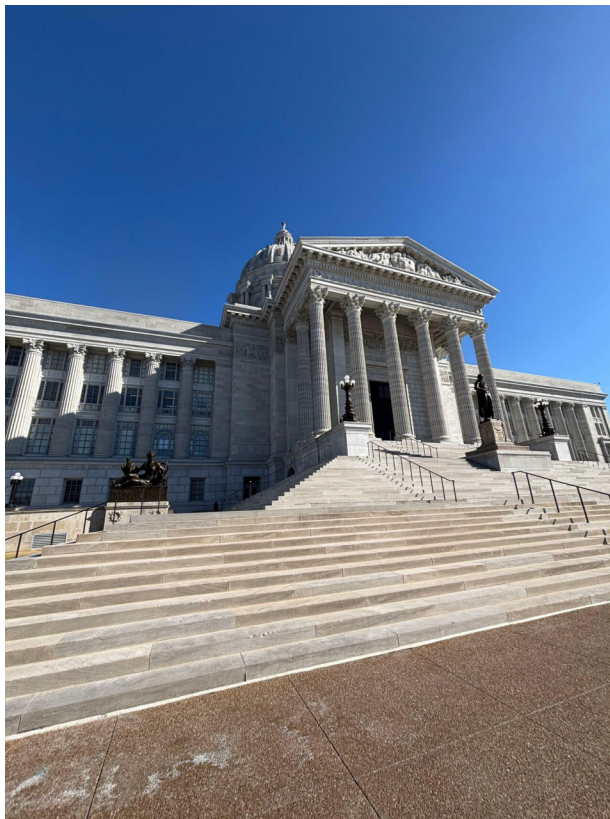
ASCE STL Board Nomination Form

For questions or issues with the form, contact: [Melantha Norton, Nominating Committee Chair](#). Thank you in advance for your valued participation and support of the STL Section!

Engineer's Day at the Missouri State Capitol

On February 4th, [#asceSTL](#) teamed up with **ASCE Kansas City Section, ACEC, MSPE**, and **APWA** for the **Engineer's Day** in Jefferson City. Engineers from across the state joined together to speak up and help shape the future of infrastructure in Missouri! They had the opportunity to meet with our Representatives and Senators and catch up with colleagues from across the state.

To learn more about our Government Relations programs, reach out to our Government Relations Chair & State Advocacy Captain [Alison Graves](#).

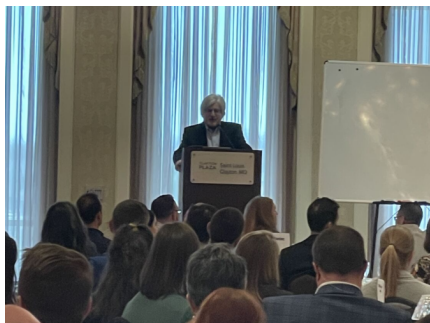


Missouri State Capitol.



ASCE STL member **Alison Graves** with ASCE Kansas City Section member **Danny Hotson** in the Missouri House Gallery.

2026 Engineers Week Luncheon



[#asceSTL](#) was proud to participate in this year's **Engineers Week Luncheon**, hosted by The Engineering Center. Keynote speaker [Dr. Stephen Thaler](#), inventor of the Creativity Machine and DABUS architecture, delivered a thought-provoking presentation on the evolution of generative AI and its implications for the engineering profession.

The discussion challenged attendees to think beyond prompt-driven tools toward systems grounded in structure, feedback loops, and responsible design. As AI continues to influence infrastructure and engineering practice, conversations around accountability, interpretability, and innovation remain critical. We're grateful to be part of a community advancing meaningful dialogue at the intersection of technology and engineering responsibility!

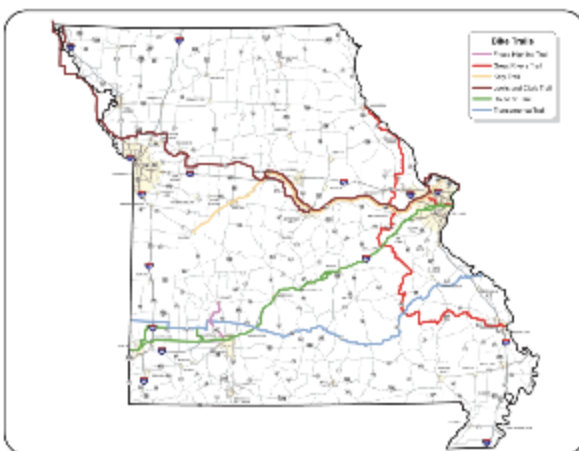
2026 Sci-Fest at Saint Louis Science Center



[#asceSTL](#) volunteers had a great time at **2026 SciFest** at the Saint Louis Science Center this last weekend! From bridge-building and soil compaction demos to structural shaker tests and a VR experience featuring ASCE's **FutureWorldVision**, we loved engaging K–12 students in hands-on civil engineering activities. Thank you to all of our volunteers for helping inspire the next generation of engineers!



#asceSTL Supports Statewide Active Transportation Plan



The St. Louis Section recently submitted a letter of support to the **Missouri Department of Transportation** encouraging the **development of a statewide active transportation plan**. We believe a coordinated framework can enhance safety, strengthen collaboration across agencies, and support economic growth by improving infrastructure for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other vulnerable road users across Missouri.

Application of Insulated Concrete Forms in General Commercial Const.



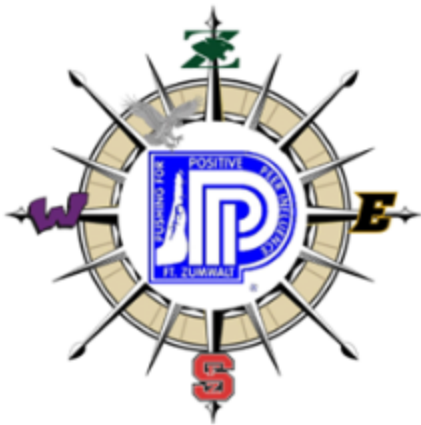
Building Enclosure Council of St. Louis is hosting an upcoming event, *Application of Insulated Concrete Forms in General Commercial Construction*, on Thursday, March 5 at the Masonry Institute of St. Louis.

This technical program will explore the use of Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs) in commercial construction, highlighting

benefits related to resilience, energy efficiency, construction scheduling, and long-term operating costs. The event includes a presentation and hands-on demonstration and offers 1 LU / 1 HSW.

Check out BEC St. Louis' upcoming event!

STREAM Volunteering Event



Volunteers needed for **Fort Zumwalt School District STREAM event on April 9, 2026** from 5:30-7:00PM at the ASCE St. Louis Section booth. We are seeking 1–2 volunteers on April 9 at 5:30-7:00PM at Forest Park Elementary in O'Fallon, MO. This may be a convenient opportunity for those located on the western side of the St. Louis Metro area. Please feel free to forward this message to anyone who may be interested. Reach out to [Nichole](#) or [Jacob](#) for coordination!





Younger Member Group (YMG)

We had an incredible time participating in **2026 SciFest** this past weekend alongside the St. Louis Section! Our members enjoyed sharing how civil engineers shape the world around us - from bridges and roadways to clean water systems and resilient infrastructure. We're



excited to spark curiosity and inspire the next generation of problem solvers.



Thank you to all who joined us for our **February Happy Hour at Westport Social!** A special thank you to our sponsor, **Lochmueller Group**, for their generous support!





LOCATION :

BARREL & BRÜ

ASCE ST. LOUIS SECTION
YOUNGER MEMBER GROUP

VOLKERT 1925 100 2025

#ASCESTLYMG **OUR SPONSOR**

[RSVP here for this YMG Event!](#)

Join us for an exclusive site visit of STL Airport in April!

YMG SITE VISIT

ST. LOUIS-LAMBERT INT'L AIRPORT

APR. 14 @ 9AM-11AM

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Join [#asceSTlymg](#) for an exclusive behind-the-scenes engineering tour at **St. Louis-Lambert International Airport**! This is a unique opportunity to see the engineering system of one of the region's most critical infrastructure systems.

Register here for this YMG Event!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS



[#asceSTlymg](#)

Upcoming YMG Events

- **March Happy Hour**
 - Barrel & Brū Tap House
 - Wed, Mar 18th @ 6:00pm
- **YMG Site Visit**
 - St. Louis-Lambert International Airport
 - Tue, Apr 14 @ 9am-11am
- **April Happy Hour**
 - The Loading Dock (Grafton, IL)
 - Sat, Apr 18th @ 3pm

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 for professional development and to meet other environmental and water resources professionals.

Friday, March 6, 2026

Sign-In and Continental Breakfast 7:30 to 8AM

Technical Program 8AM to 4:15PM

Location:

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

To Register Visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/EWRI-2026>



Registration includes:

Up to 7 PDHs, continental breakfast, and lunch.

Cost:

Students \$15
ASCE Members \$90
Non-Members \$120

This year's topics include:

Wastewater System Study
by MSD

Flood Resilience through
Increased Tree Canopy

Resource Recovery from
Sewage Sludge

WWTF Design-Build Project

Hydrologic Extremes

Waterway Restoration

Filtration of Microplastics

Floodplain Reconnection

Blueway Project

River Restoration

Dam Removal

Optional happy hour afterwards for attendees!

Join us for a happy hour after for food, drink, and networking. Symposium attendees will receive a free drink and snacks. Location is to be determined – we will provide updates once it is set!

For more information, please contact:

Samantha Keeven
Spring Symposium Co-Chair
skeeven@hrgreen.com

Charles Pugh
Spring Symposium Co-Chair
cpugh@stlmsd.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
St. Louis Chapter



Call for Presentations

St. Louis Chapter of the Geo-Institute of ASCE Presents

Case Histories Seminar and Student Projects

DATE: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

TIME: 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

LOCATION: SLU: Il Monastero Banquet Center – 3050 Olive St., St. Louis, MO 63103

Registration includes dinner. 2.5 PDH credits will be available.

The Geo-Institute 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. Please submit presentation topics to Travis Kassebaum (Travis.Kassebaum@terracon.com) and Zachary Fallert (zfallert@geosyntec.com) prior to **March 6, 2026**.

Student research posters will be on display during the registration/networking period, and selected students will give brief presentations on their topics.

A limited number of **sponsorship opportunities** are available for this event. If interested, please contact Beya Kazadi (bkazadi@hanson-inc.com).

Upcoming G-I Events

- Case Histories Seminar
 - Wed, April 8th at 5pm
 - Il Monastero, Saint Louis University

Travis Kassebaum, P.E.,
M.ASCE

G-I STL Chair
Terracon



Missouri SAVE Coalition

Ensuring Building Safety In a Disaster



Register for free one-day SAVE training March 27th



Southwest Missouri

IMPACT SUMMIT

WHERE THE FUTURE IS BUILT

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The **IMPACT SUMMIT** is a one-day conference bringing together civic leaders, development professionals, business owners, and community stakeholders to shape a thriving, sustainable future for our region. We are collaborating with the **Route 66 Centennial Celebration**, and special sessions

will explore the legacy and future of Route 66—and what it teaches us about transportation, planning, economic development, placemaking, and the built environment.

[Register for Impact Summit on May 1st](#)

ASCE | MEMBER ADVANTAGES

JOBS CORNER

[VIEW PARTNER JOB POSTINGS](#)

GEOTECHNICAL STAFF ENGINEER

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



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