

President's Message By: Tom Holdrege, President



As has become a recent tradition, Past Presidents of the Sierra Chapter will be gathering on May 20 at the Arden Hilton in Sacramento. This is one of my favorite ACEC events, primarily because I know a lot of the Past Presidents and get to catch up with those who no longer participate

regularly in Chapter events. It is hard to believe that in just one short month, I will be amongst the ranks of those Past Presidents. A few years back it took a little coercing from some of those Past Presidents to convince me to "go through the chairs" of the Chapter. I remember asking them "what is the toughest part about being Chapter President?" Their

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Meetings are at the Sacramento Hilton unless otherwise noted.
5:00 - 6:00pm Board Meeting / 6:00 - 6:30pm Networking
6:30pm General Membership Dinner Meeting
Member Cost: \$35 - Non-Member \$50
You are responsible for your RSVP and will be invoiced unless you cancel reservations 24 hours in advance.

Monday—Tuesday, May 11-13, 2015 ACEC CA Annual Conference The Lodge at Sonoma Renaissance Resort & Spa www.regonline.com/aceccaconference

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

General Dinner Meeting / Past President's Dinner and Tim Fleming Scholarship Award Presentation Speaker: Dean Lorenzo M. Smith, College of Engineering and Computer Science at California State University <u>https://eventbrite.com/event/16625961699/</u>

Saturday, May 30, 2015 SAVE THE DATE for the ANNUAL SUMMER SOCIAL!!

5:00 to 7:30 at Paul Martin's American Grill in Roseville, followed by live music at the restaurant <u>http://2015summersocialmay30-2015.eventbrite.com</u>

Thursday—Friday, July 23—24, 2015 ACEC-CA Leadership Training & Board Meeting, Orange County, Save the Date!

Dean Lorenzo M. Smith, College of Engineering and Computer Science at California State University — May Meeting Speaker

By: Harvey Oslick, Vice President



Dr. Lorenzo Smith graduated from the University of Illinois, in 1991, earning his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. He worked at Ford Motor Company and completed his Masters at Wayne State University in 1993 and completed is Ph.D. from Michigan State in 1999 while

working at General Motors. Dr. Smith then joined Oakland University as a Mechanical Engineering Professor and became associate dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science in 2010. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Smith served on the board of directors of DAPCEP, one of the nation's premier non-profit organizations for promoting STEM careers for under-represented pre-college students.

Now, as Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at California State University – Sacramento, Dr. Smith is working to establishing a revised strategic plan, develop stronger relationships with local industry, and secure additional resources for his college, all in close consultation with the faculty.

Dr. Smith will be discussing opportunities for industry partnerships with the College of Engineering and Computer Science.



This fun-filled event is taking place on Saturday, May 30, 2015 at Paul Martin's American

Registration is open for our Annual Summer Social!

Grill in Roseville. Festivities include the passing of the historical gavel from Tom Holdrege to Harvey Oslick and introduction of the incoming 2015/2016 Board of Directors. Please check your In-box for the announcement and registration details!



Coming Attractions: 1st Annual Sierra Chapter Excellence Awards

The Sierra Chapter will recognize stellar local projects completed by member firms at the Chapter meeting on September 16, 2015.

Public and private projects will be considered upon completion of every phase – planning, design, and/or construction as applicable.

Elements of projects completed by member firms, such as surveying, structural design, or construction management, will also be eligible.

Application materials will be available in early June.

Selection criteria have not yet been finalized, but will likely align with the criteria for ACEC's State awards and include:

- 1. Social, Economic, and Sustainable Design Considerations
- 2. Complexity
- Meeting and Exceeding Owner/Client Needs
 Start thinking now about recent projects you are especially proud of.

Event sponsorship opportunities will be available.

If you are interested in joining the committee (Jane Rozga, Landon Blake, Harvey Oslick, and Steve Greenfield) to recognize the cool work of Chapter members and plan an exciting event, contact Jane at Jane.Rozga@ch2m.com.

ACEC-CA State Updates and Events

ACEC California's Annual Conference is May 11- 13, 2015-www.regonline.com/aceccaconference

Join us in Sonoma this spring for the 2015 Annual Conference. The conference is a great opportunity to discuss important issues facing our industry, learn about economic trends, develop business skills, and network in the beautiful Sonoma wine country.

The 2016 Engineering Excellence Awards Competition

The 2016 Engineering Excellence Awards competition will begin in June. To be notified of the competition, please email Sarah Sanders at **ssanders@acec-ca.org** and ask to be added to the notification list.

President's Message continued

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response, almost to a person, was "the monthly President's Message". I have to laugh, because I shared this dread of the monthly message. But, in retrospect, it wasn't so bad.....in fact, I enjoyed putting down on paper my thoughts about what was happening in this great Chapter we have. Ok, I didn't mind the actual writing of the message, it was just that nagging deadline hanging over my head that made me suffer.**

But, I digress. What are the takeaways from this past year and where do we go from here? I think the monthly meeting attendance issue is a big one. We need to get more people engaged at the Chapter level. A couple of months ago, I challenged members to bring a "newbie" to the next meeting. We did see some new faces, which was great. We need to build on that. We need to get younger professionals involved. We need to reach out to existing member firms and encourage their regular involvement. engaged at the Chapter level. But, perhaps most importantly, we need to bring in some compelling speakers to attract more members and boost attendance. Why not shoot for the moon? The Governor loves ACEC, right? Kevin Johnson? The Rolling Stones? You get my point. I plan to stay involved at the Board level (if Harvey wants me) and help push things forward. I want to help get attendance up at our meetings.

Well, it is time for this month's challenge. I challenge all of you to bring a young professional along to the Past President's meeting on May 20. If you are a young professional, bring a younger one. What better way to get a young professional interested in ACEC than to have them rub elbows with the salty old dogs that have been heads of the Chapter over the past decade (or longer). So, again, I challenge all members, to bring a new face to this, the final meeting of the year. Oh, and don't forget to put the annual Summer Social on your calendar, just 10 days later on May 30. This one is a blast, and spouses are encouraged to come!

I look forward to closing out my term with a bang. Come join me, won't you?

Cheers,

Tom

**Editor's Note:

I take great joy in providing that nagging deadline. You're welcome.



An ACEC-CA Company Profile



Sacramento Entertainment & Sports Center



Ice Blocks Development, Sacramento



Sacramento Downtown Plaza Hotel and Conference Center

Geocon is a California based multi-disciplined engineering firm specializing in geotechnical engineering, environmental engineering and contracting, materials testing, and special inspection services for agencies, municipalities, authorities, and private entities. Our target markets are land development, brownfields/redevelopment, transportation, infrastructure, institutional, and natural resources. With over 250 professionals and support staff based in nine offices located throughout California, Geocon can easily meet the needs of our clients. Geocon professionals concentrate on providing the highest level of client service and quality in the most cost-effective manner. Over the years we have built a solid reputation with our clients for efficiently solving complex issues with practical solutions. Our management style is hands-on with careful attention to detail, client service, and communication. Geocon's Rancho Cordova office was established in 1990 and since then, we have had the pleasure of working on some of the more notable projects in the Sacramento region including the Sacramento Entertainment & Sports Center (ESC)/New Kings NBA Arena, Sacramento Downtown Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Ice Blocks Redevelopment, Township 9 Redevelopment, Hotel Berry, Powerhouse Science Center, Sacramento Regional Transit Green Line Extension, segments of the Capital Southeast Connector, and the Route 50/5 Sacramento River Viaduct and West End Viaduct Bridge Deck Rehabilitation (Sacramento Viaduct project). As we continue to grow as a company, Geocon is looking forward to strengthening our community roots and helping shape the future vitality of our region.

Company Contact

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2014 - 15 Board of Directors

Officers

Tom Holdrege, President (Holdrege & Kull) 530.478.1305 tholdrege@HandK.net

Harvey Oslick, Vice President (Wood Rodgers) (916) 326-5297 hoslick@WoodRodgers.com

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Ted Hopkins (2017) (Shannon & Wilson) 916.438.2301 twh@shanwil.com

Steve Greenfield (2016) (Cunningham Engineering) 530.758.2026 steve@cecwest.com

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