

ACEC California Sierra Chapter

June 2015



President's Message

By: Tom Holdrege, President



When I wrote last month's President's Message, I thought it was my last one. Then, Lisa Thut, the Sierra Chapter Newsletter Editor extraordinaire for 16 years, reminded me that I was still the President until July 1 and that we always close the year with a newsletter in June.

Although I tried to argue the point, it was to no avail. Alas, you have me for one last month. Last month, I summarized the year and talked about next year's challenges, so content for this message was a bit hard to come by. Luckily, we had a couple of great events in May that were newsworthy.

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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.

September 23, 2015

The first chapter meeting of the 2015-2016 term will be the First Annual Chapter Awards Ceremony!

Check your In-box for the announcement.

Thursday—Friday, July 23—24, 2015

Leadership Training for Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs and a State Board Meeting will be held in Orange County

**No Chapter Meetings in
July or August**

Enjoy the Summer!



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, Dean of Sacramento State's College of Engineering and Computer Science, talked about challenges and opportunities facing students and faculty. While it is typically taking students five to five and one-half years to graduate with an

engineering degree, this is largely due to students working part-time. Most students have internships. Between the internships and the current job market almost all of the students are finding employment in their field of study. The professors have their hands full with large classes and tight budgets. Management requirements facing new professors challenge them beyond what they were exposed to while obtaining their doctorate degrees. Even with their other

responsibilities, faculty is eager to assist the industry and has some availability to work on projects. Companies are welcome to contact professors directly and to work with them to develop proposals. Companies can also contact Dean Smith and he will facilitate getting the right faculty for a particular need.

The meeting included hearing nine past presidents (pictured in the President's Message) talk about comradery and the organization's accomplishments. Special thanks to them for coming out for the Past Presidents event!

Lastly, special guest, Susan Fleming, and our own Marco Palilla presented the Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship Award to Spencer Ord, a Sacramento State student. Spence is pursuing a degree in civil engineering.

ACEC-CA State Updates and Events

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.

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 23, 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.

Please check your In-Box for application information and plan NOW for the recent projects you are especially proud of!

Event sponsorship opportunities will be available.

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

President's Message continued

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We had a successful Past Presidents meeting on May 20; it was great to reconnect with all the Sierra Chapter alumni. We also awarded the Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship to Spencer Ord, who graciously accepted a very large (oversized) check from Susan Fleming.



Prior to the May 20 meeting, the Sierra Chapter Board voted unanimously to make another donation to the Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship fund, which we proudly announced to Susan that night. It was also great to see a Sierra Chapter icon at that meeting, none other than Mr. Marco Palilla! Marco, who was instrumental in getting the Tim Fleming scholarship



*Left to right, Back Row: Marco Palilla, Steve Sinnock, Ron Heinzen, Steve Greenfield, and Ted Hopkins
Front Row: Tom Blackburn, Chuck Cunningham, and Eddie Kho
Not pictured: Ed Henderson*

off the ground and in honoring our Past Presidents each year, has been busy fighting off cancer since last October, so to see him back was a special treat.

Oh, did I mention that we also had a guest speaker that night? Dr. Lorenzo Smith, Dean of Sacramento State's College of Engineering and Computer Science, was our speaker for the evening.

Just 10 days after the Past Presidents meeting, we had our annual Summer Social event in Roseville. At the Summer Social, I passed the traditional Sierra Chapter gavel on to next year's President, Mr. Harvey Oslick. He, too, reminded me that I am STILL the President until July 1. Another tradition at our Summer Social is playing a game created by the incoming Vice President. Dana Remington came up with a "drinking game", which was a rousing success. All in all, it was a great time. Those of you who missed it should be regretful!!



It has been a profound pleasure to serve as the Sierra Chapter President for 2014/2015. I look forward to continued service to the Chapter as one of your ACEC-CA State Board Members for the next two years. I hope you all have a busy and prosperous summer season and I look forward to seeing you in the Fall!

Cheers,

Tom





An ACEC-CA Company Profile



City of Stockton Grade Separations – Eight Mile Road



Psomas' new Mobile Scanner



*Sacramento Regional Transit GESS
On-Call Contract*

Dedicated to balancing the natural and built environment, Psomas provides sustainably engineered solutions to public and private clients worldwide. As a full-service consulting firm, we help our clients create value and deliver complex projects.

Markets served include transportation, site development, water, and energy with the following services offered:

- Civil engineering
- Land surveying including 3D laser scanning
- Site development engineering
- Transportation and traffic engineering
- Structural engineering
- Water and wastewater engineering
- Environmental planning and resource management
- Land planning and urban design
- Land use entitlements
- Construction management
- GIS consulting
- Special district financing

Sustainable practices are incorporated into all of our services. From designing ISI (Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure) certified projects such as removing pollutants from urban stormwater runoff to site design for LEEDTM-certified projects and our renewable energy practice, Psomas is in the forefront of the sustainable design movement.

The cornerstone of our business approach is to focus on our clients' long-term needs and then guide our strategic growth to meet those needs. Our core strength is our multi-disciplined teams of experts—top-notch staff who produce award-winning projects for our clients through innovation, creativity and cutting-edge technical expertise.

Founded in 1946, Psomas provides services from offices throughout California, Arizona, and Utah.

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2014 - 15 Board of Directors

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