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President's Message

By Erik Fanselau

Greetings-

I am pleased to report that I have recently returned from the ACEC state conference, board meeting, and Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) in Orange County. Several other Chapter representatives joined me for a phenomenal event. I would encourage all of you to attend the conference and EEA in the future if you have the opportunity. Attendees networked with other Chapter leadership, discussed ACEC business and initiatives, heard from ACEC National leadership, and recognized a few of the outstanding projects our member firms have completed.

One key focus of our state board meetings is to discuss pending legislation and ballot measures that have the potential to impact our industry. Our legislative staff present each issue to the group and we discuss the impacts to our respective firms. Our feedback is used by our lobbyists for their conversations with elected representatives. ACEC is working hard to support your firm's best interests!

The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists is considering requiring

Professional Development Hours as a requirement for license renewal. The Board claims that this focuses on, "the advancement, extension, and improvement of the technical aspects and professional skills of the licensee and on the enhancements of professional ethics." Other states and certification programs in California have similar requirements. The Board has been soliciting input from professionals and it will be interesting to see how this plays out.

Calendar of Events

**Meetings are held at the
Hilton Sacramento Arden West**

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Joint ACEC/Calmentor Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Young Professionals Forum Luncheon

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

ACEC-CA Legislative Visit Day

Mark Your Calendar!

Please visit www.acec-ca.org for a complete list of upcoming webinars and on-line classes.



Erik Fanselau
Sierra Chapter President
2023-2024

February Dinner Meeting Recap

Past Presidents Dinner, Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship Award Ceremony, & Farewell to Debbie LoCicero

By Marco Palilla, Director and Past President



Ryan Fleming with Tim Fleming Scholarship winners



Debbie LoCicero receives standing ovation from a packed house.



Current Sierra Chapter Board with Debbie LoCicero



2024 Sierra Chapter Past President's Dinner, February 21, 2024

Back row: Marco Palilla, Paul Enneking, Ed Henderson, Erik Fanselau, Scott Lillibridge, Chris Curtis. **Front row:** Chuck Cunningham, Debanik Chaudhuri, Debbie LoCicero, Tom Blackburn, Bob LoRusso, Dana Remington, Harvey Oslick

The End of an Era

By Erik Fanselau

At our February membership dinner, your Board of Directors recognized current Director, Marco Palilla, for his 42 years in engineering and his extensive history of service to our industry. He has begun his retirement transition and we wanted to do something as a gesture of our appreciation. Marco served as our Chapter President from 2010-2011, continues to serve as a Director, and has been the champion of many initiatives at the Sierra Chapter such as our Tim Fleming Scholarship support, Past President's Dinner, Legislative Visit Day, CSUS/UOP liaison, and many roles outside of ACEC. Please join me in saying thank you for everything he has done for our Chapter.

Right: Erik Fanselau with Marco Palilla (left) recognized for his years of service.



Presidential Visit

By Erik Fanselau



Erik Fanselau with Gene Bougdanos, ACEC Calif. President

The Sierra Chapter was pleased to welcome Gene Bougdanos, ACEC California President, at our February membership dinner. Gene was in town for an event at the Capitol for Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day that ACEC supported. He gave us a brief overview of current ACEC California activities.

Joint ACEC/Calmentor Dinner Meeting — March 20, 2024

By Erik Fanselau

Please join us on March 20 for our annual joint dinner with Calmentor. We are pleased to announce that Eric Souza, Caltrans North Region Chief Deputy, will be joining us and will talk about the Caltrans Core 4 which are safety, climate action, equity, and economic prosperity.

Watch your inbox for the meeting invite.

Register for ACEC Legislative Visit Day: April 24, 2024!

By Rosa Griggs and Marco Palilla, Sierra Chapter Directors



Our annual ACEC Legislative Visit Day is coming up fast Wednesday, April 24th. This is our annual opportunity to advocate for infrastructure, any sponsored legislation, and other industry issues with state legislators and promote our consulting engineer and land surveying agenda. This year ACEC California will once again be hosting an *in-person* event. Historically, the Sierra Chapter brings a large and active group of volunteers and Marco and I want to continue that tradition.



Registration and sponsorship opportunities are now available. An overview of Legislative Day activities is below:

April 23

- 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Federal PAC Fundraiser

April 24 - Legislative Visit Day general timeline:

- 7:30 am - 8:30 am Breakfast at the Elks Tower
- 7:45 am - 11:00 am Guest Speakers, general programming
- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch, Guest speakers
- 12:10pm - 12:15pm Video at Capitol West Steps
- 12:30 pm – 5:00 pm Meetings with legislators at the swing space
- 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Legislators reception at Smic's Bar

April 25th

- 7:30 am - 8:30 am Breakfast for State Board at the Elks Tower
- 8:30 am - 3:00 pm State Board of Directors meeting

Use this link for more information and to register: <https://www.acec-ca.org/event/LVD>

If you have questions or comments feel free to reach out to Rosa Griggs (rgriggs@dokkenengineering.com) or Marco Palilla (marco.palilla@hdrinc.com).

See you at the Capitol!

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Get Noticed in the Sierra Chapter Newsletter!

Would you like to see YOUR FIRM listed in this Newsletter?

ACEC-CA/Sierra Chapter firms in good standing are invited to submit a company profile for inclusion in this newsletter.

Firms that have not been featured in the last two years are invited to participate again.

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