

May 3, 2024



May 2024 Newsletter

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The Arch May cover

- [SIUE Fuller Dome](#)

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From the President

Wow! What a month April was! The **ASCE St. Louis Section** kicked off the month with the opening of the [150th Eads Bridge Anniversary display](#) at the Missouri History Museum on April 5th. **Jeff Fouse** represented the Section at the event. This exhibit will be open until May 11, 2025 - check it out! We followed that up by inducting eleven (11) new Life Members at our monthly luncheon on April 12th.

Congratulations and thanks to the **Missouri S&T Student Chapter** for hosting a tremendously successful [Mid-America Student Symposium](#) on April 18- 20. Organizing an event of this magnitude is a monumental task on top of a full class load. The S&T Student Chapter is to be commended! Mizzou and SIUC both sent great teams that represented their schools with pride. Congratulations to the **Billikens from Saint Louis University** who came away from the weekend with the **prize for 1st Place overall!**

The college kids weren't the only ones who enjoyed the event. Many professionals and ASCE STL members served as judges and volunteers. This included Section Board member **Tony Roth** and Communications Chair **Brenan Pool**. Annual Awards Chair **Nichole Witushynsky** had several roles at the event including head judge of the [Steel Bridge Competition](#). ASCE President **Marsia Geldert-**

Ronaldo Luna
Saint Louis University

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Murphy and Region 7 Governor **Shawna Erter** (both ASCE STL Past-Presidents) were also on hand, alongside countless other volunteers. I had the pleasure of serving as a judge for the [Mystery Design Competition](#) on Thursday evening with **John Smith** from Alberici. I was blown away by the creativity of the students. Thanks to all that volunteered and to all the sponsors that provided financial support for this important event.

We didn't slow down the week after the Symposium. The [St. Louis Geo-Institute Chapter](#) held it's 'Geo-Legends' evening on Wednesday, April 24. Thanks to **Marsia Geldert-Murphy**, **Tom Cooling**, and **Allen Minks** for serving as panelists - it was legendary!

The following night on Thursday, April 25, the ASCE STL hosted the St. Louis Premiere of the ASCE film, [Cities of the Future](#) at the [Saint Louis Science Center OMNIMAX Theater](#). The film itself was great, but the crowd's enthusiasm stole the show. Students from over a dozen middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools were in attendance in addition to Section members. Outside the theater, SLU students brought a display on transportation engineering and **Jeff Fouse** showed off the Section's new display board. Attendees were able to experience the virtual worlds of [Mega-City and Floating City](#) with the assistance of Pre-College Outreach Chair **Jacob Mette**. Students from **St. Clair Junior High School** proudly [displayed their award-winning Future City Competition](#) project.

The [DiscoverE Future City Competition](#) plays a big role in the Film, and ASCE STL was lucky to connect with **Martina Hahn-Baur**, the Regional Coordinator for the [Missouri Future City Region](#). She connected us with St. Clair Junior High School and several other schools in Missouri that have competed in the Future City Competition. We look forward to a strong relationship between the ASCE St. Louis Section and Missouri Future City Competition. Thanks to **Martina** and ASCE President **Marsia Geldert-Murphy** for addressing the crowd prior to the start of the film. I'd also like to express my gratitude to the event planning committee members and **our corporate sponsors** for the evening. [Cities of the Future starts regular showings at the Saint Louis Science Center on May 3rd](#). I'd encourage you to take a young person to see it!

As I wrap up this extensive recap of an extremely busy April, I realize how lucky we are to have such an active Section. It's a testament to the dedication of so many members to the ASCE St. Louis Section. One name does stand out to me. You may have noticed that ASCE President [Marsia Geldert-Murphy](#) is mentioned three times in the preceding paragraphs. While we are lucky to have one of our own section members serving as the ASCE President, the time she has made for her hometown section during her year as society president goes above and beyond! To recap, **Marsia** sat on the Geo-Legends panel and addressed the [Cities of the Future](#) attendees on consecutive evenings; all before flying to Brazil the next morning. In addition, she was in Rolla for the student symposium and spoke at our January section luncheon. **Marsia**, your dedication to the St. Louis Section during this extremely busy year is greatly appreciated!

Finally, we are accepting nominations for the 2024 ASCE St. Louis Section Awards until June 15. If you know of project, professional, or young professional worth of recognition, **please nominate them**. [See the awards page](#) or contact Annual Awards Chair [Nichole Witushynsky](#)!

I hope you all have a fantastic May and the warm weather it will bring!

Christopher Toenjes

May 2024 Section Luncheon

ASCE St. Louis Section is proud to partner with our [Younger Members Group \(YMG\)](#) to host **Travis Helmkamp** at our upcoming May luncheon, presenting on the [City of St. Louis's ADA Transition Plan](#).

The [City of St. Louis](#) faced the daunting task of developing an ADA Transition Plan, encompassing over 1,600 miles of sidewalks and 160 city buildings maintained by the Board of Public Service. Recognizing the long-term commitment required to eliminate access barriers, the City engaged in a thorough community engagement strategy. This approach sought feedback from residents and visitors to guide prioritization, considering the City's diverse population and the inherent limitations of community engagement.

Through this process, a prioritization system was established, leading to the identification of seed projects aimed at kickstarting a more accessible future. This comprehensive approach not only valued community input but also navigated the challenges of balancing feedback with practical considerations, resulting in a plan that represents the entirety of the City's needs and aspirations.



Travis Helmkamp

Travis Helmkamp, P.E., ACTCP, is a Project Manager at [Oates Associates](#) with a built expertise in ADA compliance. He has been involved in ADA Transition Plan development since 2010 and has managed all plans since 2017. In addition to his work with ADA Transition Plans, he also manages the development of pedestrian improvements plans. This gives him a unique understanding of not only developing the plans but understanding the challenges of implementing the plan. Travis received his BSCE from Valparaiso University. In 2015, he completed the [ADA Coordinator Training Certification Program \(ACTCP\)](#) offered by the Great Plains ADA

Center at the University of Missouri–Columbia. He currently serves as the Advocacy and Outreach Chair for the [St. Louis Branch of APWA](#).

Register for this event!

Contact programs for late registration

[Stephen Noeth](#), Programs Chair
[Maggie Cox](#), Programs Assistant

When: Tues, May 7 @ 12:00 pm

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

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

Special thanks to our venue host

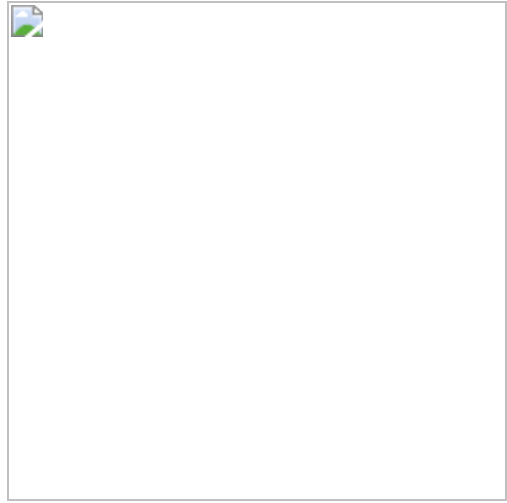
[Saint Louis University](#) and [SLU Department of Civil, Computer and Electrical Engineering!](#)



2024 Mid-America Student Symposium

Cohosted by Missouri S&T and Missouri State, seventeen (17) ASCE student chapters from the Midwest descended upon Rolla, including St. Louis Section's five (5) student chapters of S&T, SLU, SIUC, SIUE, and Mizzou. Students competed in a number of engineering related competitions and challenges including: Steel Bridge, Concrete Canoe, surveying, sustainable solutions, 3D printing, concrete bowling ball, and more!

More information and in-depth competition results can be viewed at the [Mid-America website](#).



Society Competitions

Concrete Canoe

1. K-State

Steel Bridge

1. Missouri S&T

Surveying

1. UI

Sustainable Solutions

1. Mizzou

3D Printing

1. SLU

Mead Paper

1. KU

Local Competitions

Concrete Bowling Ball

1. SLU

FE Quiz Bowl

1. UNL

Transportation Design

1. SLU

1st & 2nd Year Design

1. SLU



Overall Symposium Rankings

1. Saint Louis University (SLU)

2. University of Kansas (KU)

3. University of Iowa (UI)

4. University of Missouri (Mizzou)

5. Missouri University of Science & Technology

6. Kansas State University (K-State)

7. Southern Illinois University Carbondale

8. University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)

9. William Jewell College

10. South Dakota State University

11. University of Missouri-Kansas City

12. Missouri State University

13. University of Nebraska Omaha

14. Iowa State University

15. Benedictine University

16. Dort University

17. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

ASCE Elections now open - cast your vote!



The [2024 ASCE Election](#) has now opened through June 1st! Cast your vote for either **Marsha Anderson Bomar, AICP, ENV SP, F.ITE, F.ASCE** of the Department of Transportation for City of Atlanta or **Kenneth H. Rosenfield, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE** of Ardurra Group, Inc.

More information about candidates' general bios and questions answered via [past forums](#) can be found at [ASCE](#).

Vote Now through June 1st

Cities of the Future premieres in St. Louis



#CitiesOfTheFuture comes to the Gateway City! ASCE STL members welcomed a new generation of problem-solvers with many local K-12 kids being amazed during the film's St. Louis premiere at the [Saint Louis Science Center](#) 🎬🔑 Unlock the potential of the next generation by sending kids to a world where cities thrive on innovation, sustainability, and boundless possibilities. [Consider donating to the ASCE Foundation to send kids](#) to see this film!

Thank you to our partners at Future City ([DiscoverE](#)) and [Kaleidoscope Discovery Center](#) for your collaboration, our sponsors for your support, and MacGillivray Freeman Films for a great film! **See the film at Saint Louis Science Center starting May 3rd** 🍿

Call for Section Award Nominations

ASCE STL is seeking nominations for outstanding project or colleagues [deserving recognition and prestigious awards](#) at the Annual Awards Dinner in September, showcasing the civil engineering excellence in Greater St. Louis! Self-nominations are also accepted! These prestigious awards are presented at the Annual Awards Dinner in the fall and are a great way to showcase the civil engineering excellence in our Section. Qualified nominations may be forwarded for consideration in the [ASCE Region 7 Awards](#).



Nominations are due June 15th!

Nominate for ASCE STL Annual Awards



Project of the Year Award

This award annually awarded to civil engineering projects within the St. Louis Section, recognizing owner, lead design engineer, and general contractor achievements. Eligible projects completed within 5 years prior to nomination submission, showcasing exceptional engineering skills and contributions to civil engineering progress.



Professional Recognition Award

This award recognizes the importance of professional attainment in the advancement of the science and profession of engineering and is presented annually to a Member of the St. Louis Section who has made substantial contributions to the engineering profession and the Section.



Young Engineer Award

This award recognizes professional contributions of younger members to the Society and to the Section and is presented annually to a Member of the Section who is less than 35 years of age.



Outstanding Faculty/Practitioner Award

This award is made annually for any Faculty/Practitioner Advisor who supports student chapters and civil engineering students. The nominee must be active with ASCE student members in the St. Louis Section and a member of ASCE.

Please submit nominations to [Nichole Witushynsky](#), Annual Awards Chair. Guidelines and forms for nominations are [available on the Section website](#).



The Section leadership has worked hard over the last 2 years to develop a **new Strategic Plan for 2023-2028**. To guide the plan, we sent out a Membership Survey in 2022 to see what our members valued. During our in-person workshops in 2022 and 2023, we developed new **Vision** and **Mission** Statements for the Section, as well as performed a **SWOT analysis**, and set several objectives and goals. We then broke off into smaller groups to create action plans to accomplish each goal and assigned them to committees or roles. The Strategic Plan documents each of these efforts and will be reviewed annually to track our progress and guide our decision making.

[We've posted the plan on our website](#) and invite you to take a look. If anything sparks your interest and you'd like to get more involved with helping us accomplish our goals, please reach out to the President or any member of the Board.

The Vision:

The ASCE St. Louis Section fosters a diverse, collaborative, and welcoming community of engaged members who are trusted leaders in creating a safe, sustainable, and resilient environment while supporting the development of the next generation of civil engineers.

The Mission Statement:

The ASCE St. Louis Section is a community for civil engineers which provides our members with professional and technical development opportunities, promotes the profession through outreach to the public and future civil engineers, and advocates for safe and sustainable infrastructure.

Call for Section Volunteers



The Section is looking for more volunteers to become involved and lead our amazing committees. Build leadership skills, give back to your Section, meet new friends... it's wins all around! We're here to serve ASCE STL, but come serve alongside us.

Reach out to [any Board of Director or Section volunteer](#) to get involved!

- Government Advocacy
- Membership Champion
- Pre-College (K-12) Outreach
- Student Involvement Outreach
- Sustainability
- Communications & Website
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Fundraising
- History & Heritage
- Life Members

- Specialty Institutes & Groups
- Annual Dinner & Awards
- Programs
- Scholarships



Younger Members Group (YMG)

Thank you to everyone who attended our April happy hour! We forgot to take a photo but will remember to take one next time. There are only a few events left before our summer break. See our upcoming socials below - we hope to see you at one!



L: The Kitchen Bar at City Foundry (sponsored by Prairie Engineers). R: Top Notch Axe Throwing St. Louis (sponsored by Special Inspections & Design).

Upcoming YMG Events

- [May Happy Hour - City Foundry](#)
 - Mon, May 6th @ 5:30 pm
- [Summer Social - Top Notch Axe Throwing](#)
 - Fri, June 7th @ 6:00 pm, RSVP required to reserve space

Younger Members Chair

[Alicia Padilla](#)

Special Inspections & Design



Institutes & Technical Groups

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



ENVIRONMENTAL & WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTE
St. Louis Chapter

Join us at EWRI STL's Annual Meeting!

Thank you for your support with our chapter. Join us for our in-person annual meeting at Civil Design Inc. on May 6th with a virtual option. Lunch is provided for in-person attendees.

Email [Samantha Keeven](#) or [Jiaman Xu](#) to RSVP.

Monthly Speaker Series Event

The St. Louis Chapter of EWRI is pleased to announce our monthly webinar on Thursday, May 23rd from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm (CT). This presentation will be broadcast live over a webinar. Registration is *free* to ASCE members.

Harnessing Hydraulics: CHAMP's Response to the Gibson City Flood and Beyond
The [Illinois State Water Survey's \(ISWS\) Coordinated Hazard Assessment and Mapping Program \(CHAMP\)](#) prepares flood risk map products across Illinois, identifies high-risk areas, and engages community partners to act in preventing losses from flood hazards. In August 2021, Gibson City, IL, experienced unprecedented flooding, highlighting the critical need for accurate flood risk assessment and effective community engagement in flood mitigation. This presentation delves into the rapid response and innovative methodologies CHAMP employed during the Gibson City flood.

Sabin Paudel, E.I.T., CFM



Hydraulic and Hydrologic Engineer, Illinois State Water Survey

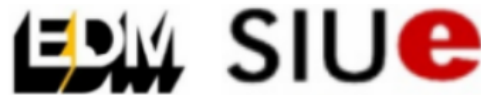
Mr. Paudel joined ISWS-CHAMP in June 2021 and has since been working on various county-wide hydrologic and hydraulic studies for federal floodplain mapping efforts with the State of Illinois. He holds a B.E. in civil engineering from Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and MSCE in Water Resources from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. His primary research interests include riverine hydrology and hydraulics and watershed management. In his free time, he enjoys traveling, hiking, and playing soccer.

Register here today!

EWRI St. Louis Speaker Series
Thu, May 23rd @ 12:00 pm

Contact [Rohan Benjankar](#) with questions, topic ideas, or have interest in presenting.

Thank you to our sponsors, EDM and SIUE!



Register by May 21st!

Upcoming EWRI STL Events

- Annual Meeting
 - Mon, May 6th
- [Monthly Speaker Series](#)
 - Thu, May 23rd

EWRI STL Chair

[Jiaman Xu](#)

Civil Design, Inc.



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



**GEO-
INSTITUTE**
St. Louis Chapter

Geo-Institute Seminar

Join Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter for our upcoming G-I STL Seminar *A Decade of Seismic Resistance Advances: The New Madrid Seismic Zone* by Greg Hemen, Ph.D., P.E., RG.

The 200th Anniversary of the [Great New Madrid Earthquake Series](#) was just over a decade ago. Within the decade since the Anniversary there have been a variety of important advances in the understanding of US earthquakes, assessing the risk from varied seismic zones, and furnishing products for assessment of, design for, and mitigation of earthquakes. The [New Madrid Seismic Zone \(NMSZ\)](#) remains the most active US seismic zone east of the Rocky Mountains. New large structures

and the rehab of certain structures are required to meet the adopted code, which are periodically revised, for life safety of occupants during an earthquake. New tools to meet the local codes for seismic resistance certainly make both more typical standard designs more comprehensive and understandable, and the structures more robust in resisting earthquake vibrations.

Registration includes pizza and water. Vegetarian meals are available upon request. Please note that lunch is not guaranteed for registrations after May 20th.

RSVP by May 20th

Geo-Institute Seminar

When: Wed, May 22nd @ 11:30 am

1.0 PDH is available from this program.

Register today!

Cost: \$10.00, includes pizza and water

Where: Terracon, St. Louis

Geo-Institute St. Louis Scholarships

The St. Louis Chapter of the Geo-Institute of ASCE is calling applications for our annual chapter scholarships, including:

- **Alizadeh/Geotechnology Scholarship**
 - Students pursuing a Master's degree in Civil or Geological Engineering with an emphasis in geotechnical or environmental engineering are eligible. Application deadline May 3rd.
- **GeoConfluence Research Scholarship**
 - Students pursuing a Master's degree (thesis option) or Ph.D. degree specializing in geotechnical/geoenvironmental engineering at a university within the ASCE St. Louis Section are eligible. Application deadline June 30th.
- **Shamsher Prakash Geotechnical Scholarship**
 - Students pursuing a Bachelor's degree with an emphasis in Geotechnical or Geological Engineering at a university within the ASCE St. Louis Section are eligible. Application deadline June 30th.

For more information regarding application, please visit [Geo-Institute St. Louis Chapter](#).

Upcoming G-I STL Events

- 2024 Chicago Geotechnical Lecture Series
 - Fri, May 3 @ 8:00, Chicago
- G-I STL May Meeting - Elections
 - Fri, May 17 @ 4:30 pm, in-person
- G- STL Seminar
 - Wed, May 22 @ 4:00 pm, Terracon

G-I STL Chair

Xiaomin (Sophie) You

WSP USA



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS PRESENTS...

ICE CREAM SOCIAL



TUESDAY, MAY 7TH, 5-6PM | MDH LAWN

JOIN US FOR OUR LAST EVENT OF THE SEMESTER

AND TO CELEBRATE OUR SENIORS!





MINER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

CIVIL, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
ST. LOUIS ALUMNI TOWN HALL AND HAPPY HOUR



Photo from St. Louis CArEE Town Hall and Happy Hour - Spring 2023

Thursday, May 9
5:30–7:30 p.m.

[McCarthy Building Companies](#)
12851 Manchester Road
St. Louis, MO 63131

Count me in!



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