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Existing and Proposed 2D Hydraulic Model Water Depth and Flow Path Results for a Comprehensive Drainage Impact Analysis of Proposed Land Development

FEATURES:

Floodplain Conveyance Zones and the Offsite Drainage Assessment Program: A Comprehensive Drainage Impact Analysis of Proposed Land Development Utilizing High-Resolution, 2D Hydraulic Models





AUGUST 2023 VOLUME 31 • NO 4

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Marcus Taylor, PE Ali Mustapha, PE Ronald Schumann, Jr, PE Nedra Hains, MA, *Editor* (225) 333-8234

PUBLISHER:

Baton Rouge Printing, Inc., Port Allen, LA

Louisiana Civil Engineer quarterly journal is an official publication of the Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers with an average circulation of approximately 2100. The Section neither guarantees the accuracy of the information provided nor necessarily concurs with opinions expressed. It does not claim the copyrights for the contents in this publication. Please submit letters and articles for consideration to be published by email to nedrahains@gmail.com or mail to the Publications Committee c/o Nedra D. Hains • 622 Steele Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70806-5742.



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ASCE NATIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Phone: 1-800-548-ASCE

E-Mail: gsd_master@asce.org

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President's Message

By Kirk Lowery, PE, D.GE

This past year as flown by and cannot believe this is my last Presidential message. I would be remiss if I did not thank all the members on the Louisiana Section Board with special thanks to Dr. Tonja Koob Marking and Katherine Foreman. As past president, Tonja will be rolling off the board and she was always there to remind me of little but important things throughout this past year. Personally, as an engineer who is getting up in years, it is always a real pleasure to work with up-and-coming, hard-working young engineers like Katherine. And she busted it!

I mentioned in the last journal to put on your calendars for next spring that UNO will be hosting the Gulf Coast Symposium. The faculty advisor heading this up is Dr. Gianna Cothren, gcothren@uno.edu. She is currently finalizing her budget for this event and will need volunteers and contributors. One thing I have always been proud of as an ASCE member is the contribution by our members to help with these events. Also, the dedication of the students and the advisors for making these events come together, enjoyable, and encouraging. I have personally witnessed, more than contributed, at LSU, Southern, University of Louisiana in Lafayette and Louisiana Tech. Each of you please consider volunteering or contributing monetarily.

Mentioned in previous journals was the rollout of the next version of the Report Card. Currently, a draft of the various sections has been compiled and is being reviewed for the final version.

Coming this fall is the 33rd annual Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference & Show, hosted by the New Orleans Branch on October 4 and 5, 2023 at the Pontchartrain Convention & Civic Center in Kenner, LA. More information about the schedule and presenters is available at https://www.louisianacivilengineeringconference.org/. Also, this fall is the National ASCE Convention titled "Be Future Ready" on October 18-21, 2002, in Chicago, Illinois. The conference will examine emerging technologies to be future ready, upskills for what is next in the labor market, the latest on risk management, and new funding for broadband, energy, resilience and more. More information on the national conference is available at https://convention.asce.org/.

ASCE board certifications recognize civil engineers who have demonstrated advanced knowledge and skills in their specific specialty area. As some of you may be aware, the ASCE Civil Engineering Certification (CEC) is moving away from the designation of Diplomate towards a Board-Certified designation. For example, a Diplomate of Geotechnical Engineer – D.GE will now be a Board-Certified Geotechnical Engineer – BC.GE. The ASCE Marketing and Communications teams are continuing to work towards the goal of board-certification becoming more recognized and being more often cited in project proposals, RFPs, and employment, hiring, and promotion practices in the profession. I encourage you to consider becoming board certified in your areas of expertise.

In this month's journal, T. Stokka Brown Jr. explains the evolving drainage impact analysis for land development in the Greater

Baton Rouge Area. Traditionally, drainage impact studies and/or floodplain fill mitigation were analyzed to retain specified rainfall events the developed on land and/or floodplain fill would need to be countered with corresponding excavation on the developed land, respectively. The article



Kirk Lowery, PE, D.GE

goes into detail of using two-dimensional hydraulic models to help show the impacts of the land development and help modify the land development to reduce the impacts.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for giving me this opportunity to serve as your President. I ask you to support the Louisiana Section and especially the board next year and in years to come. Please take every opportunity to help Marcus Taylor as the incoming president, I promise I will.



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Call for Potential Speakers and Exhibitors!

We are proud to announce the dates for the 33rd Annual Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show. This event, a joint effort from the New Orleans Branches of ASCE and ACI, is the premiere gathering for the Civil Engineering community in the Greater New Orleans Area. We are in the process of soliciting sponsors and exhibitors and establishing the technical program for the fall conference which will be held on October 4-5, 2023, at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner, Louisiana. **Note, this is a few weeks later than years past!**



For additional information on the conference, please visit our web site at www.LCECS.org

Floodplain Conveyance Zones and the Offsite Drainage Assessment Program: A Comprehensive Drainage Impact Analysis of Proposed Land Development Utilizing High-Resolution, 2D Hydraulic Models

by T. Stokka Brown Jr., MS, PE, CFM

Introduction

Over the past six decades, the Greater Baton Rouge area has been struck by two significant floods in 1983 and 2016, alongside numerous minor ones. These disasters have spurred public reactions of distress and agony, which later morphed into anger and worry. These sentiments stem from the perception that new land developments (herein referred to as "developments") contribute to an increased flood risk. Although municipalities have established development codes and ordinances to regulate this risk, public confidence in the impact analyses carried out by developers' engineers — stating that each individual development will not increase the flood risk — has significantly diminished. However, the advent of comprehensive, watershed-wide two-dimensional (2D) hydraulic modeling offers municipalities a more effective way to demonstrate to the public that proposed developments will not increase flood risk across the watershed. This evaluation procedure is known as the Offsite Drainage Assessment (ODA).

The ODA serves as the mechanism through which the impacts of proposed developments on drainage are evaluated, using the municipality's 2D hydraulic model of the existing system known as the Effective Hydraulic Model (EHM). This process is triggered when a proposed development falls within a Floodplain Conveyance Zone (FCZ). To ascertain the potential impact of the development, a range of simulated rainfall events — both with and without the proposed development — are used to analyze its influence on water surface elevations and flow across the watershed. In cases where potential impacts are detected, the developer is required to modify the proposed design. The design is revised and evaluated until it shows no adverse effects before construction approval is granted. The aim of ODA is not to stifle development but to ensure a thorough and rigorous analysis is conducted to mitigate any negative impacts, fostering the growth of flood-resilient communities.

Furthermore, as developments receive approval and proceed to construction, they are incorporated into the 2D model as part of the new EHM. This inclusion effectively creates a dynamic or 'living' model. This system has the capacity to assess both the impacts from individual developments and the cumulative effects of all developments since the initial EHM was created. This process enables municipalities to manage their floodplains more effectively and to progressively minimize the increase in flood risk over time.

Development Codes & Ordinances

Municipalities have traditionally implemented development codes and ordinances to prevent or at least mitigate the potential flood risk posed by new developments. These codes and ordinances are primarily housed within the Floodplain Management and Stormwater Management Plan sections. They incorporate elements

like a Drainage Impact Study (DIS) and Floodplain Fill Mitigation. A DIS typically necessitates the development to detain, and in certain cases, overdetain a 10%, 4%, or occasionally, a 1%



T. Stokka Brown Jr., MS, PE, CFM

annual exceedance probability (AEP) rain event. These AEP events are commonly referred to as the 10-year, 25-year, and 100-year rain events, respectively. This control measure is put in place to manage additional rainfall runoff caused by an increase in the impervious surface area. It also necessitates no increase in peak water surface elevations (or "no-impact") for streams passing through the development site. The Floodplain Fill Mitigation requires that any fill in the floodplain is counterbalanced with an equivalent volume of cut to maintain a steady storage capacity for the rainfall runoff volume. Although debates persist regarding the return period design storm an internal drainage system and detention ponds should be designed for, our primary focus here is on the no-impact assessment.

Both municipalities and the engineering community have adhered to industry standards in conducting no impact analyses. However, advances in technology now provide more accessible tools for a more precise simulation of existing hydraulic conditions and the potential impacts of developments. This is especially relevant to the irregular, shallow sloping watersheds typical to the majority of Louisiana. In these unique watersheds, water can flow in various directions contingent on the intensity of the rain event. It is vital to capture these multi-directional flow paths to accurately simulate the existing system. Without a precise understanding or simulation of the present system, it becomes virtually impossible to assess the potential impact of a proposed development. In this context, twodimensional (2D) and combined one- and two-dimensional (1D/2D) hydraulic models emerge as the most suitable for simulating these complex systems. They are therefore the best tools for performing no impact analyses for proposed development.

In a significant development in February 2016, the US Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC), free to the public, released version 5.0 of their River Analysis System (RAS). This version included the capacity to perform 2D and combined 1D/2D unsteady flow modeling ¹. HEC has since launched additional versions of RAS, with the latest being 6.4.1, each of which further enhanced the program's capabilities.

Stormwater Management Plan Updates Post August 2016

In the aftermath of the devastating flood in August 2016, several affected municipalities embarked on the process of revising their Drainage or Stormwater Master Plans. These updated plans involved a comprehensive evaluation of their existing drainage systems, identification of deficiencies, and development of mitigation

strategies and projects to bolster these systems. Hydraulic models have always been a crucial component of this analysis, given their capacity to simulate the response of both existing and improved systems under various conditions, such as design and historic storm events.

With the advent of the 2D capabilities of HEC-RAS, drainage systems are now being developed using 2D hydraulic models. These sophisticated models enable us to capture benefits in the form of lower water surface elevations and shorter inundation periods than the existing to improved models. Additionally, these hydraulic benefits can be converted into monetary benefits using software like the Hydrologic Engineering Center's (HEC) Flood Impact Assessment (FIA) or similar tools. These tools utilize water surface elevations, asset elevations, and depth damage curves to quantify benefits.

Offsite Drainage Assessment

With a comprehensive 2D hydraulic model of their surface drainage system in hand, municipalities are now equipped with a tool that serves a multitude of purposes. While these models are invaluable for evaluating the benefits of proposed improvements, they also offer a powerful means of assessing the potential impacts of proposed development. They can be employed for the Offsite Drainage Assessment (ODA) and the Floodplain Conveyance Zone (FCZ) with little to no additional costs. This multipurpose application of the models not only enhances the understanding of flood risks but also ensures cost-effectiveness in managing and mitigating these risks.

It is worth noting that these 2D hydraulic models are primarily designed to evaluate the capacity of a proposed development to convey water through the site from offsite sources, rather than assessing how effectively a proposed development manages water falling directly on the site, such as through surface and subsurface drainage routing and detention or retention areas. This distinct focus is what gives the process its name: Offsite Drainage Assessment or ODA. However, the evaluation of the onsite drainage system for adherence to local codes and ordinances remains an essential step, conducted in tandem with the ODA. The ODA furnishes a more extensive analysis to evaluate potential flood risk impacts from proposed developments to neighboring properties and the entire watershed.

Pioneering the creation of the FCZ and ODA, CSRS, LLC worked with the City of Central to first adopt them in April 2021 following the completion of their Drainage Master Plan. East Baton Rouge (EBR) Parish followed suit adopting the FCZ and ODA in April 2023 as part of their Stormwater Master Plan. For the EBR Stormwater Master Plan, CSRS, LLC lead the development of policy change (codes/ordinances) recommendations including the FCZ and ODA as a subconsultant to HNTB, Inc. Both the City of Central and EBR Parish now mandate certain developments within a Floodplain Conveyance Zone (FCZ) to undergo the Offsite Drainage Assessment (ODA), overseen by the City or Parish, respectively.

Floodplain Conveyance Zones

The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) currently serve as the regulatory tool for dictating where fill can be placed within the regulatory floodway. To ensure that the fill does not lead to an increase or "no-rise" in the 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) also known as the 100-year flood elevations, a comprehensive hydraulic analysis is necessitated. Nevertheless, in regions like East Baton Rouge Parish and the City of Central, many channels and streams lack regulatory floodways as defined by FEMA. To fill this gap, we introduced a mapping tool known as the Floodplain Conveyance Zone (FCZ).

The FCZ expands upon the identification of areas critical for stormwater conveyance and the ODA helps to safeguard their capacity. The FCZs accurately pinpoint virtually all areas essential for stormwater conveyance across the modeled area. The ultimate aim of the FCZ is to delineate the sections of a stream or other watercourse and the surrounding land areas that are vital for stormwater conveyance. Figure 1 shows the final FCZs in an area of East Baton Rouge Parish that were developed as part of the EBR Stormwater Master Plan Policy Change Recommendations².



Figure 1: EBR FCZ Online Map (https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ fde8aa3162ea4518b429a7d183f72d46)

Methodology

These conveyance areas are quantified through a combination of depth and velocity, where depth is the height of water above the ground in a specific area, and velocity is the rate at which it flows across the surface. The combined product of depth and velocity, known as the "depth-velocity product," forms a unit flow rate that helps quantify conveyance. This approach builds upon existing studies³ that advocate for developing floodway-like zones using combined depth and velocity results.

A sensitivity analysis was conducted to explore how different combinations of depth and velocity affect the dimensions of the FCZ. This analysis was carried out for a predominantly rural and urban watershed separately, with the objective of identifying a combination that could be universally applied to both, thus ensuring consistency across the Parish.

The process used to evaluate the "effectiveness" of the depth and velocity parameter combinations is depicted in Figure 2. Initially, a set of parameters was selected to define an FCZ boundary. Following this, a model geometry was crafted to represent a complete build-out of the watershed. In this model, areas outside the FCZ were raised to one foot above the peak water surface elevation for a 1% AEP rain event, as illustrated in Figure 3. Finally, a simulation of a 1% AEP rain event was run using this new "build-out" model. The peak water

surface elevations resulting from this model were then compared to those in the existing conditions model. This comparison offered insights into the "effectiveness" of the parameter combination and guided the selection of combinations for further testing.

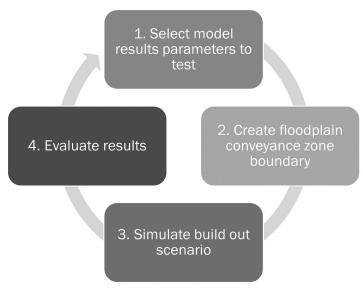


Figure 2: Sensitivity Analysis Process

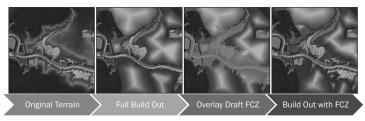


Figure 3: Build Out Scenario Development Process

A variety of depth-velocity product values from the 1% AEP event were evaluated, but they generated relatively narrow zones that were significantly sensitive to localized model instability. As a result, depth-based and velocity-based zones were created independently and combined into a final zone based on their overlapping areas. An additional zone was defined for regions where flood depth was exceptionally large ("large depth-based zones"), irrespective of velocity. A unique consideration was made for the Bayou Fountain-Bayou Manchac area due to its exceptionally flat topography, where a slightly lower velocity threshold was applied. The tolerances used to generate the final FCZ for EBR Parish are outlined in Table 1. For the City of Central, a simple depth-based approach with a tolerance of 0.5 feet from the 1% AEP event was used.

Table 1: EBR Parish 1% AEP Model Output Tolerances for Floodplain Conveyance Zones

Component Zone	Model Output Tolerance Used
Depth-based	0.5 feet
Velocity-based	0.5 feet per second (0.25 for Bayou Fountain-Bayou Manchac)
Large Depth-based	4 feet
Final Conveyance Zone	Incorporates all 3 above

The 2D hydraulic model generated the output used to establish the

"raw" FCZ. The "raw" FCZ output was refined through a combination of automated geoprocessing tools used to clip, fill, and smooth the areas. Features that didn't represent conveyance, such as detention ponds and roadways, were removed along with minor offshoots of the main conveyance features.

For EBR Parish, FCZ on undeveloped land was classified as Type 1 conveyance zones, and FCZ across existing subdivisions was classified as Type 2 conveyance zones. In some upland areas in the northern-most part of the Parish, the model was unable to produce reliable velocity results due to the lower mesh resolution representing the conveyance features. When reliable velocity data were not available, the depth-based boundary was used to define an approximate zone. This FCZ was categorized as Type 3 conveyance zones. The City of Central FCZ was not divided into types.

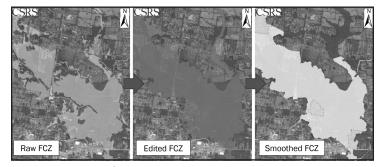


Figure 4: Examples of Edits Made to EBR Parish FCZ

Uses and Limitations

The FCZ is designed to serve as a tool for both municipalities and developers. It is recommended that the municipality makes the FCZ map accessible through an online service, enabling developers to verify whether a prospective property is located within an FCZ. Both the City of Central and EBR Parish publish their FCZ on their respective online GIS sites. As enhancements are incorporated into the models over time, it is crucial to ensure corresponding updates to the FCZ.

The FCZ map is not a substitute for hydraulic modeling and does not represent all stormwater conveyance areas. It underscores those areas of conveyance as determined by the level of detail employed by the models used for their creation. Therefore, this level of detail should be taken into consideration when utilizing the map product.

Example Offsite Drainage Assessment

Let's take a closer look at an illustrative example of an Offsite Drainage Assessment, specifically situated in the City of Central. The location of a proposed development is illustrated in Figure 5, demarcated in black with a hatched interior, with the Floodplain Conveyance Zone (FCZ) highlighted in blue. This site is hydraulically complex, with three points of inflow and three points of outflow as indicated by the arrows. In the absence of a 2D model, this area has traditionally been simplified using a single channel running down the main stream with cross-sections spanning the entire floodplain. However, this one-dimensional (1D) setup failed to capture the flow of water across the site from west to east. We will delve deeper into this topic shortly.

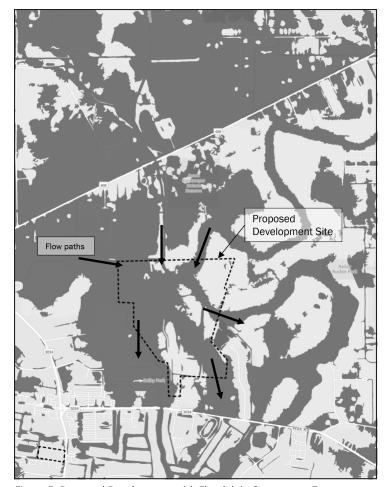


Figure 5: Proposed Development with Floodplain Conveyance Zones

The existing and proposed digital terrain models (DTMs), which play a crucial role in current and proposed model simulations, are showcased in Figure 6. The elevation scale ranges from white and grey for higher points, through red, orange, and yellow, down to green and blue for lower areas. The proposed DTM is constructed based on information supplied by the developer. The following details are required as part of the permit application process:

Drainage Impact Study

Description of the proposed development including:

Drawing showing horizontal and vertical extents of the fill area, ponds, roadways, drainage ways, and drainage reroutes, and

Size, type, length, and invert elevations of drainage structures.

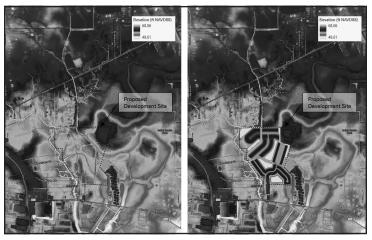


Figure 6: Existing and Proposed Digital Terrain Models

A crucial first step involves updating the Effective Hydraulic Model (EHM) to incorporate key drainage features, ensuring that it accurately reflects the current hydraulic conditions in the area. This results in the creation of the Pre-Development Hydraulic Model, or Pre-Model. Subsequently, this Pre-Model is updated using the information provided by the developer to represent the proposed development, forming the Post-Development Hydraulic Model (Post-Model).

Both Pre- and Post-Models are run for the 10%, 4%, and 1% 24-hour duration annual exceedance probability (AEP) rain events. Figure 7 provides a glimpse of the resulting peak water depths and flow paths during the 1% AEP rain event as predicted by both the Pre- and Post-Models. To create an Impact Assessment Map, the peak water surface elevations derived from the Pre-Model are subtracted from the corresponding elevations in the Post-Model for each AEP rain event, thereby mapping out the differences.

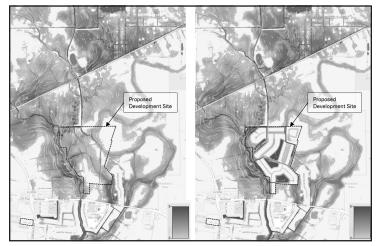


Figure 7: Existing and Proposed Conditions 1% AEP Event Resultant Peak Water Depth and Flow Paths

Figure 8 illustrates the Impact Assessment Maps from the first and second iterations of the proposed development. Any values greater than zero, represented in red, indicate an increase in peak water surface elevations from the Pre-Model to the Post-Model. Conversely, values less than zero, shown in green, represent a decrease in peak water surface elevations from the Pre-Model to the Post-Model.

Ultimately, a detailed memorandum is produced. This essential document encompasses all pertinent information, including data supplied by the developer, the methodology applied in developing both the Pre-Model and Post-Model, and the insights gleaned from the ensuing analysis.

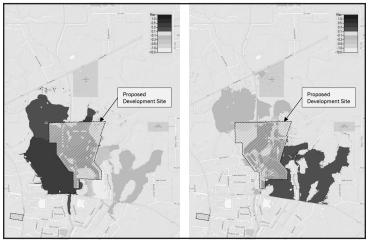


Figure 8: First and Second Impact Assessments during 1% AEP Event

The first round of analysis revealed that the proposed development was impeding flow across the site, an issue previously mentioned. If it were not for the 2D models and the Offsite Drainage Assessment (ODA), this initial design could have easily sailed through conventional regulations. The likely outcome would have been escalated flood risk in areas north and west of the development. Fortunately, with the ODA in place, the results of the preliminary assessment were communicated to both the City and the developer. This allowed for the models' insights to be leveraged in designing the development

more effectively, considering the need for adequate flow across the site

The second analysis iteration allowed more flow across the site, which subsequently increased the flood risk to the east. After several more iterations, it was determined that providing the developer with a copy of the Effective Hydraulic Model would be the most efficient means to assess variations in the design. As of the drafting of this article, the developer continues to work on the first version of their design, now equipped with the Effective Hydraulic Model.

Conclusion

The graphic results demonstrated here—particularly striking in full color—provide local authorities and the public with a clearer perspective of the possible impacts from proposed developments, subsequently fostering a stronger sense of trust. This case underscores the necessity for a more thorough evaluation of proposed development using the most sophisticated technology at hand. By introducing the Offsite Drainage Assessment (ODA) today, municipalities can facilitate more rigorous assessments of future development, thereby fostering communities that are safer from flooding.

References:

- 1 https://www.hec.usace.army.mil/software/hec-ras/documentation/HEC-RAS%205.0.1%20Release%20Notes.pdf
- 2 https://stormwater.brla.gov/main-report/
- 3 https://floodsciencecenter.org/event/ctp-webinar-using-adepth-x-velocity-product-in-conjunction-with-floodways/

T. Stokka Brown Jr., MS, PE, CFM

Stokka Brown holds the position of Principal at CSRS, LLC, where he leads the Water Resources Practice. As a Licensed Professional Engineer in both Louisiana and Texas, as well as a Certified Floodplain Manager, he boasts over 13 years of deep expertise in water resources and coastal engineering. He earned his Bachelor's in Civil Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and furthered his studies with a Master's in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. Notably, Stokka excels in utilizing state-of-the-art technologies to create hydraulic and statistical models. These essential tools shed light on the intricate workings of drainage systems, pinpoint issues, formulate efficient solutions, and simplify complex concepts of drainage and flood risks for better understanding. His wide-ranging impact on the industry includes crafting comprehensive stormwater master plans, managing engineering and design initiatives, undertaking benefit-cost evaluations, and refining policy regulations. His endeavors have equipped cities with effective strategies to mitigate and manage flood risks.



Scan QR Code to view this article in full color.

ASCE Region 5 News

In Memoriam

Billy R. Prochaska

Billy Roy Prochaska, an eminent figure in the realm of engineering, bid farewell to this world on June 6, 2023, surrounded by his loved ones, at the age of eighty-four. Born on May 30, 1939, in Pineville, Louisiana, Billy's journey was marked by remarkable contributions to the field of civil engineering.

His academic voyage took him to the Southwestern Louisiana Institute (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette), where he graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering in 1961. Following this, he proudly served his country in the United States Navy from 1961 to 1965. With an Officer Candidate School completion and a US Navy civil engineering course under his belt, Billy assumed the role of Public Works Officer at the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Mississippi until his honorable discharge in 1965. During this time, he serendipitously met Maria Truxillo, who became his beloved partner for over 57 years.

Billy's thirst for knowledge led him to the University of Florida, where he obtained his Master of Engineering degree. His profound expertise in land surveying and civil engineering spanned five decades, during which he lent his talents to renowned firms like Louis J. Capozzoli, Soil Testing Engineers, and Woodward-Clyde Consultants. In 1983, driven by an entrepreneurial spirit, he founded his own engineering company in Baton Rouge, Soils and Foundation Engineers, which he managed alongside his family until his retirement in 2004.

Among Billy's proudest achievements, his presidency in both the Louisiana Groundwater Association and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Baton Rouge Branch ('75-'76) stand as enduring markers of his leadership. Notably, his involvement in addressing the levee failures stemming from Hurricane Katrina underscores his commitment to public welfare. Equally impactful was his role as an educator, sharing his wisdom at both his alma mater, UL, and LSU. Even in his "retirement," Billy remained a sought-after consultant for several more years.

A devout member of St. George Catholic Church in Baton Rouge, Billy faithfully served as an usher for over four decades.

His sense of humor was evident in his claim that he and his wife, Maria, had weathered every church building fundraiser.

Billy's passions were diverse and vibrant. His deep appreciation for his Czech heritage was evident through his attendance at the Czech Heritage Festival in Libuse, Louisiana. As a



Billy R. Prochaska 1939-2023

consummate professional geotechnical engineer, he held high standards and displayed an unwavering commitment to his craft. The fervor with which he cheered for the UL Ragin' Cajuns, holding season tickets for their football team for over 30 years, was testament to his dedication. Every Friday was a "Cajun red shirt day" for him. However, beyond all these, his profound love and devotion to his family were unmatched. His unwavering dedication to ensuring his wife, Maria, and their children had everything they needed was a testament to his character.

Billy's legacy is carried forward by his surviving wife, Maria Truxillo Prochaska, and their five children: Maria and Trent Boudreaux, William and Jenifer Prochaska, Kathleen and Todd Guedry, Michael and Kamile Prochaska, and Thomas and Lori Prochaska. Additionally, he leaves behind two brothers, Otto Prochaska, Jr. and Dr. Bobby Prochaska, along with their families, to remember and honor his remarkable life.

In remembering Billy Roy Prochaska, we honor not only a distinguished engineer but also a loving family man, a dedicated community member, and an individual whose life was an embodiment of passion and commitment.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Billy's name to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the World War II Museum in New Orleans, or the UL Alumni Association in Lafayette.

American Society of Civil Engineers Louisiana Section - Past-Presidents

It is always good to look back and remember all those who have served as Presidents of the ASCE Louisiana Section and pay a small tribute to their dedication and hard work.

It is with immense gratitude and admiration that we gather these names here to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the volunteer ASCE Louisiana Section Presidents who have tirelessly dedicated their time, expertise, and unwavering commitment to advancing the field of civil engineering in our great state. Their dedication has been a driving force behind the growth and success of our section, and it is only fitting that we take a moment to recognize their exceptional contributions.

The Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has long stood as a testament to the remarkable achievements that collaboration, passion, and leadership can bring about. As we navigate the dynamic landscape of civil engineering, our Section Presidents have been the guiding lights, leading us through challenges and opportunities alike. From fostering professional development to organizing impactful events, their efforts have consistently elevated our community, fostering an environment of innovation and excellence.

Drawing inspiration from the ASCE's core values of inclusivity, integrity, and dedication to public welfare, our past presidents have steered the Louisiana Section towards remarkable progress.

They have dedicated their time to cultivating relationships with professionals, educational institutions, and governmental bodies, ensuring that our collective voice is heard, and our impact felt.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our volunteer leaders, who have taken up the mantle of responsibility, often while managing demanding careers and personal commitments. Their passion for advancing the field of civil engineering in Louisiana has been truly commendable, and their ability to inspire fellow professionals is a testament to their leadership acumen.

As we reflect on the milestones achieved and the challenges overcome under their guidance, let us not only celebrate their achievements but also draw inspiration from their dedication. The legacy they leave behind serves as a reminder that by working collaboratively and remaining steadfast in our commitment to excellence, we can continue to shape a future where civil engineering not only thrives but also plays a pivotal role in shaping society for the better.

To our esteemed volunteer ASCE Louisiana Section Presidents, we extend our deepest gratitude for your selfless service, vision, and leadership. Your unwavering dedication has propelled our section to new heights and has left an indelible mark on the profession. We invite you all to join us in honoring these exceptional individuals and celebrating their enduring impact.

2023 Kirk Lowery 2022 Tonja Koob Marking 2021 Joe "Butch" Ford, Jr. 2020 Beau Tate 2019 Rudolph Simoneaux, III 2018 Malay Ghose Hajra 2017 Matthew D. Redmon 2016 Christopher G. Humphreys 2015 Pamela A. Gonzales Granger 2014 Robert W. Jacobsen 2013 Kurt M. Nixon 2012 Ronald L. Schumann Jr. 2011 Patrick J. Landry 2010 Christopher P. Knotts 2009 Ali M. Mustapha 2008 E. Ray DesOrmeaux 2007 Timothy M. Ruppert 2006 Kim M. Garlington 2005 Norma Jean Mattei 2004 Barbara E. Featherston 2003 Charles L. Eustis 2002 Mark W. Snow 2001 Miles B. Bingham 2000 S. Brin Kern 1999 Mark A. Jusselin 1998 Todd A. Vincent 1997 Mark B. Dubroc 1996 O. Lee Underwood, Jr.

1995 Om P. Dixit 1994 Paul B. Fossier, Jr. 1993 Kam K. Movassaghi 1992 William W. Gwyn 1991 Paul L. Miers 1990 John W. Moore 1989 James C. Webb 1988 Frank M. Stuart 1987 Michael V. Aderman 1986 James C. Porter 1985 Leonce P. Waguespack, Jr. 1984 Lloyd A. Held, Jr. 1983 Bobby E. Price 1982 Thomas L. Jackson 1981 Charles W. Hair, Jr. 1980 Larry A. McKee 1979 Philip J. Lindsey 1978 Owen LeBlanc 1977 Blaise M. Carriere 1976 John F. Marshall 1975 Alvin D. Kaufman 1974 John F. Grosch, III 1973 Norwood F. Hymel 1972 Samuel M. Murphy 1971 C. Carter Brown 1970 Robert N. Bruce 1969 Gerald R. Dyson

1968 John W. Roach 1967 Beverly J. Covington 1966 Walter E. Blessey 1965 Joseph T. Montgomery, III 1964 Wayne P. Wallace 1963 Roy G. Cappel 1962 Roy G. Cappel 1961 Francis B. Sessums 1960 Frank C. Fromherz 1959 Bernard A. Grehan 1958 Calvin T. Watts 1957 Lee H. Johnson, Sr. 1956 Roy T. Sessums 1955 Louis M. Buja 1954 Louis M. Buja 1953 Frank W. MacDonald 1952 E.M. Freeman 1951 E.M. Freeman 1950 Berhnard Dornblatt 1949 Walter H. Scales 1948 J.M. LeDoux 1947 Leo M. Odom 1946 C. Glenn Cappel 1945 V.J. Bedall 1944 David A. Godat 1943 Alvin M. Fromherz 1942 Frederick N. Billingsley

1940 Norman E. Lant 1939 A.J. Negrotto 1938 William H. Rhodes 1937 H.A. Sawyer 1936 F.P. Hamilton 1935 John H. O'Neill 1934 John Riess 1933 George P. Rice 1932 Clarence N. Bott 1931 E.S. Lanphier 1930 C.M. Kerr 1929 B.H. Grehan 1928 F.A. Muth 1927 W.T. Hogg 1926 E.S. Bres 1925 Samuel M. Yong 1924 E.H. Coleman 1923 Donald Derickson 1922 Ole K. Olsen 1921 A.T. Dusenbury 1920 Arsene Perrilliat 1919 Arsene Perrilliat 1918 W.B. Gregory 1917 W.B. Gregory 1916 District Council Chair 1915 District Council Chair 1914 District Council Chair

1941 John A. McNivan

The Engineer's Creed

As a Professional Engineer, I dedicate my professional knowledge and skill to the advancement and betterment of human welfare. I pledge:

To give the utmost of performance;

To participate in none but honest enterprise;

To live and work according to the laws of man and the highest standards

of professional conduct;

To place service before profit, the honor and standing of the profession

before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations.

In humility and with need for Divine Guidance, I make this pledge.

The Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers would like to express deep appreciation to our Spouses, Families, and Friends who have been with us over the past century. Your love and support has made it possible for us to strive to be worthy of this Pledge.



Charles L. Eustis, PE 2002-2003



Barbara E. Featherston 2003-2004



Norma Jean Mattei, PE 2004-2005



Kim M. Garlington, PE 2005-2006



Timothy M. Ruppert, PE 2006-2007



E.R. (Ray) DesOrmeaux, PE 2007-2008



Ali M. Mustapha, PE 2008-2009



Christopher P. Knotts, PE 2009-2010



Patrick J. Landry, PE 2010-2011



Ronald L. Schumann, Jr., PE





Robert W. Jacobsen, PE 2013-2014



Pamela A. Gonzales Granger, PE 2014-2015



Christopher G. Humphreys, PE 2015-2016



Matthew D. Redmon, PE 2016-2017



Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE 2017-2018



Rudolph Simoneaux, III, PE 2018-2019



Beau Tate, PE 2019-2020



Joe "Butch" Ford Jr., PE 2020-2021



Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE, D.WRE, DFE, MBA, PMP, CFM 2021-2022



Kirk Lowery, PE, D.GE 2022-2023

ASCE-COPRI Louisiana Chapter News

By William Gohres, PE, Director - Communications





William Gohres, PE
Director – Communications

The Louisiana Chapter of the Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute (L.COPRI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) promotes membership, professional development, and visibility throughout the State of Louisiana by conducting virtual webinars and inperson events.

YPG and Student Chapter Updates

On July 21st, COPRI YPG volunteered with Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL) to play an important role in helping rebuild coastal Louisiana. Volunteers assisted CRCL staff in maintaining native plant nursery, prepping for an upcoming reef build, and making general site improvements. Thank you to all who participated in this fantastic event.

For more information on how to get involved in coastal restoration please visit https://www.crcl.org/. There are many upcoming volunteer opportunities for fun events such as oyster reef restoration, tree plantings and more!

Please reach out to Hayden Franklin (LSU COPRI Student Chapter President, hfran15@lsu.edu) and Kiara Horton (YPG Director, kiara.horton@freese.com) for information on how to get involved as an LSU Student or Younger Member.

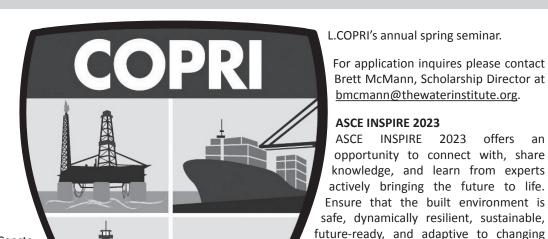
Local Upcoming Events

Upcoming events include our annual full-day Fall Seminar in Baton Rouge. Keep a look out for future event announcements via email and LinkedIn.

If you have any general event questions, please contact Programs Director Molly Bourgoyne at molly.bourgoyne@la.gov.

Scholarship Announcement

L.COPRI traditionally awards annual scholarships to students (1 graduate and 1 undergraduate) studying Civil, Coastal, Ocean or Environmental Engineering, or a Coasts, Oceans, Ports, or Rivers related field. Be on the lookout for the scholarship application form. Scholarship winners are typically presented their checks during



ASCE

you nothing short of INSPIRED. The conference will take place in Arlington, VA from November 16-

climate conditions. Plenary speakers,

technical sessions, local tours of engineering

projects, and the Hall of Inspiration will have

18, 2023. For more information please visit https:// inspire.asce.org/.

National COPRI Professional Achievement Awards

National COPRI offers several opportunities to recognize our colleagues for their professional achievements. For more information on individual, project, research, and younger member award opportunities, please visit https://www.asce.org/communities/institutes-and-technical-groups/coasts-oceans-ports-rivers-institute/awards

National COPRI Committees

Service on a COPRI committee is just one of the many ways in which you can give back to the profession. Each year engineering professionals participate in activities by volunteering their technical and professional expertise. Opportunities exist to join technical committees. For more information, please visit https://www.asce.org/communities/institutes-and-technical-groups/coasts-oceans-ports-rivers-institute/committees.

Other Information

The activities of L.COPRI includes seminars, workshops, and other activities to benefit all ASCE and COPRI members. Members do not have to be an engineer to join COPRI. The Institutes of ASCE are formed for the benefit of ASCE and non-ASCE members to participate and interact with other professionals interested in coastal, oceans, ports, and riverine efforts in Louisiana. We would like to extend an invitation to our members to submit feedback and ideas for upcoming webinars and events. Please submit these ideas to molly.bourgoyne@la.gov, and stay-tuned for a meeting invite if you are a member of our L.COPRI email list.

Also, please don't forget to follow us on LinkedIn!

ASCE-G-I Louisiana Chapter News

By Gwen Sanders, Chapter Chair





Gwen Sanders, PE, D.GE G-I Chair

Louisiana Geo-Institute Chapter Hold Inaugural Meeting

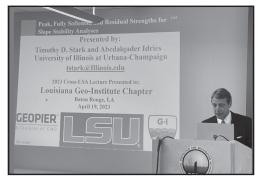
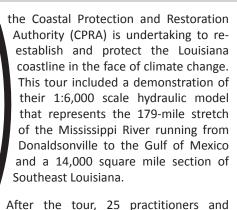


Photo by Ricardo de Abreu

The Louisiana Geo-Institute Chapter held its Inaugural in-person meeting on April 19, 2023 at the LSU Center for River Studies in Baton Rouge. The event started with a tour of the Center for River Studies that described the various research projects that



students were present and joined by 113 participants on-line for a total of 138 attendees, well above their prior webinar engagement. The meeting featured G-I 2023 Cross-USA lecturer Timothy D. Stark, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE, from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, who spoke on "Peak, Fully Softened, and Residual Shear Strengths for Slope Stability Analyses". Dr. Stark discussed the application, measurement, empirical correlations, and use of drained peak, fully softened, and residual shear strengths in static stability analyses. The presentation used case histories to illustrate the applicable shear strengths for typical slope stability applications. In addition, a new fully softened and residual strength spreadsheet was presented that includes standard deviation to facilitate calculation of the probability of failure in addition to a factor of safety. The audience asked many questions afterwards and shared their Louisiana slope stability experience, which brought a fresh appreciation of the intricacies of slope stability analyses.



ASCE Government Relations



ASCE Virtual Day of Action's Congressional Meetings

The inaugural, invitation only ASCE Virtual Day of Action's congressional meetings for the Louisiana team on September 21, 2023. To ensure that ASCE's 2023 Legislative Fly-In agenda* is achieved—like the Federal Aviation Administration and National Dam Safety Program reauthorizations pass before they expire on September 30th—ASCE is hosting a day of collective action with superstar advocates to meet virtually with your federal delegations in state teams to follow up on our asks from this past March.

On September 21St, ASCE Government Relations will host a <u>special</u> <u>webinar</u> which will feature key policy leaders to dive into trending

public policy issues and an exclusive briefing session on the latest key legislative activities in Congress. The webinar will take place from 11:00am to 1:00pm Eastern Time, with state teams having their virtual congressional meetings between 1:30pm and 5:30pm Eastern Time, with the option of scheduling meetings on September 22nd based on the availability of Congressional offices, you, and your state team members. If you are an ASCE member and interested in participating, please contact Nedra Hains at nedrahains@gmail.com.

*The 2023 Legislative Fly-in agenda: https://www.asce.org/-/media/asce-images-and-files/advocacy/documents/asce-118th-congressional-priorities.pdf

Civil Engineering Legends

By Melinda Luna, PE



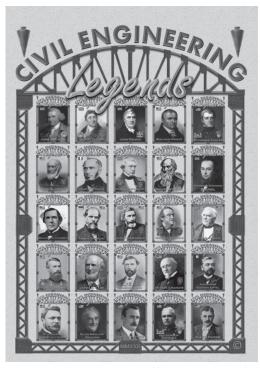
Raymond Paul Giroux, Dist.M.ASCE, NAC Professor of Engineering Practice Purdue University

When Covid required us to quarantine, several people sought to cope with it in several ways. For many years Raymond Paul Giroux, Dist.M.ASCE, NAC has devoted some of his free time to research and prepare lectures for some of America's most iconic civil engineering projects. Paul's lectures now include the Transcontinental Railroad, Eads Bridge, Brooklyn Bridge, Panama Canal, Hoover Dam, Golden Gate Bridge, Grand Coulee Dam, and the Mackinac Bridge. Paul has now shared these lectures over 300 times at

engineering schools and industry conferences, including the annual ASCE convention.

Covid quarantine meant less time commuting and traveling, and Giroux wondered what hobby project he could work on while in quarantine. He came up with the idea of making civil engineering legends trading cards. Paul has been posting CE Legend cards on social media for nearly three years each week. Paul then decided to make a physical set of trading cards. The first set produced was for the top 25 CE Legends of 2022. Over 400 sets of Top 25 cards were distributed by the ASCE History and Heritage Committee at the 2022 ASCE Convention in Anaheim. The trading cards hope to provide an accessible way to share information on notable civil engineers and inspire engineers to learn more about the remarkable engineers who laid the profession's foundation.

Notable civil engineers in this first set included John Smeaton, Thomas Telford, Benjamin Wright, Sylvanus Thayer, and Henry Darcy. Paul went on to create more card series, such as geotechnical and construction engineers, and currently, he is working on a series about women in civil engineering. Paul Giroux is now retired from Kiewit Corporation after 45 years of service and is teaching at Purdue University. His course is titled Great Projects: Essential Lessons from the Great Builders. The system is an in-depth study of relevant lessons to modern engineering and management practices of the Transcontinental Railroad, Eads Bridge, Brooklyn Bridge, Panama Canal, Hoover Dam, Golden Gate Bridge, Grand Coulee Dam, and the Mackinac Bridge.



Color version of cards can be found: https://www.texasce.org/tce-news/civilengineering-legends/

National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in Louisiana

By Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE, D.WRE, F.ASCE

ASCE dedicated another National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark in Louisiana on May 23, 2023 – the New Orleans Drainage System. Designed around the turn of the 20th century, New Orleans' drainage system has been integral to the City's survival and development. The dedication ceremony featured local dignitaries including:

- Ghassan Korban, Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO),
- Freddie King III, New Orleans City Council and SWBNO Board Member,
- Col. Cullen Jones, Commander of the US Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District, and
- Ron Spooner, SWBNO General Superintendent.

Several ASCE officers were on hand to commemorate the event, including:

- Dr. Norma Jean Mattei, Past ASCE National President
- Lawren Pratt, Region 5 Director
- Rudy Simoneaux, Region 5 Governor
- Ronnie Schumann, Region 5 Governor
- Kyle Galloway, New Orleans Branch President
- James Williams, New Orleans Branch Secretary

Miles Bingham, who made major contributions to the application for this landmark, was also on hand to commemorate the event.

Dozens of community members attended the event, including public servants, local engineers, representatives of non-



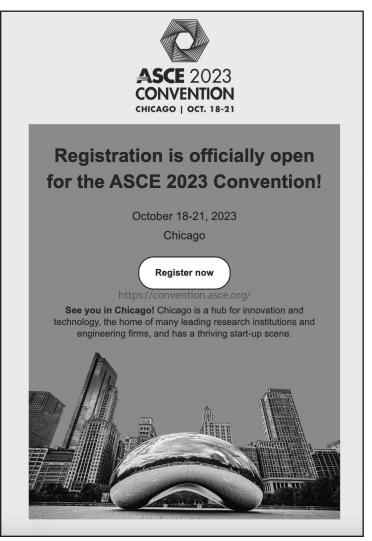
Tonja Koob Marking, PhD, PE

profit organizations, and local media outlets. Several stayed after the ceremony to tour Drainage Pump Station No. 6. First constructed in 1899, the pump station currently has a capacity of 12,600 CFS.

The ceremony was yet another reminder of the historic contributions civil engineers have made to our Society.







ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter News

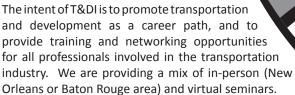
By Sean Daly - Newsletter Editor





Sean Daly T&DI Chair

Looking Ahead



The next upcoming seminar in September will be "Federal Benefit-Cost Analysis for Grant Applications". Federal grant obligations have nearly tripled in the past five years, a lot of that is due to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which supplemented the previous transportation authorization. A major component of the federal grant application is the benefit cost analysis (BCA). In this seminar, an overview of BCAs for US Department of Transportation and the Federal Emergency Agency will be provided along with best practice to provide sound technical results in support of grant applications.

Please be on the lookout for the seminar announcement for time and location.

The Chapter is planning the following future seminars:

- Green Infrastructure: Integrating Infrastructure Needs
- New Mississippi River Bridge P3 Financing and Tolling
- New Orleans Convention Center Beautification
- Hydraulics of Small Crossings in Louisiana
- I-12 Widening over Tchefuncte River
- I-10 / College Dr flyover
- Laser Scanning / Advanced Measurements
- Integrating Engineering Performances of Highway Construction Materials into environmental Impact Performances





STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

BSAC/PFC Subcommittee on Strategic AlignmenMario Ricozzi, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE

Hello Section, Branch, Region Leaders, and Institute Presidents,

Thank you to those who participated in yesterday's webinar on Strategic Plan Implementation and Organizational Alignment. The speakers shared preliminary concepts and ideas to implement the Strategic Plan at the ASCE Organization Level that can also be used at the local level.

The webinar was recorded and can be accessed at <a href="https://link.edgepilot.com/s/734b601e/puqh-MVJ70e-RszwlLegrw?u=https://asce-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/adavis_asce_org/ETqnO91cjyhMg50stR6ZOkABc77YJspHV-YMAoQcHUhCEQ?e=r3YMd9%26referrer=Teams.TEAMS-ELECTRON%26referrerScenario=p2p_ns-bim%26web=1. The slides used in the presentation are attached for your information and sharing with your Board members. We hope you will find this information valuable and useful.

We are seeking feedback on these preliminary concepts. Please send your ideas and comments to: ASCEStrategicPlan22@asce.org to participate in shaping Our ASCE.

The BSAC/PFC Subcommittee on Strategic Alignment and the Leader Training Committee would appreciate it if you could take a minute and fill out the following short survey on this webinar https://link.edgepilot.com/s/dc525e81/yl-v9ebTtkyKqnM5Ggt5rA?u=https://forms.gle/FrRu7fprjVdXNB9T9. Your input gives us an opportunity to develop and enhance our programs and outreach.

As always, please feel free to contact the Leadership Training Committee of ASCE. Thank you very much for your time and support of ASCE.

Mario Ricozzi, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE Vice Chair of the BSAC/PFC Subcommittee on Strategic Alignment

Branch News

BATON ROUGE BRANCH By Venu Tammineni, PE, LEED AP, Branch President

Going into the summer of 2023, ASCE continues to engage its members in various luncheons and Bridging-the-Gap events. The April luncheon was held at Sullivan's Steakhouse with a presentation from Ricardo de Abreu, PhD, PE, D.GE, F.ASCE, on the Current State-of-Art of Waste Landfills and their Future. Since 1992, Dr. de Abreu

has provided geotechnical engineering services for more than 100 landfills and solid waste facilities in the United States and abroad. In addition to providing information on technical aspects of the waste landfills design, Dr. de Abreu provided thoughtful insights into the current and future of waste management practices. He urged the members to evaluate their waste management strategy to be able to efficiently manage and actively reduce waste to minimize the impact on the environment.



Dr. de Abreu Presentation at Sullivan's

ASCE also hosted the Bridging-the-Gap on April 27th at the Louisiana Museum of Art in Downtown, Baton Rouge. Robert Twilley, James Martin, and Greg Upton participated in the panel discussion on Wind Energy and provided valuable insight into the growth prospects of wind energy in the Gulf States with a focus on Louisiana.

ASCE partnered with the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) for the Joint Crawfish Boil at Walk-Ons on Burbank. The event was spearheaded by LES with support from ASCE and was well attended.



Bridging-the-Gap



Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome Presentation

For the June luncheon, ASCE invited the Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome of the City of Baton Rouge. The luncheon was held at Boudreaux's Catering on Government Street where the Mayor-President Broome provided an update on the current infrastructure challenges in the City of Baton Rouge and the solutions being implemented. The event was well attended by the members and included a Q&A session where the members were very engaged in the conversation with Mayor-President Broome. The luncheon was attended by various representatives from the City of Baton Rouge including but not limited to Fred Raiford, Tom Stephens, Dr. Raquel Ayles, Autumn Payton and others.



Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome Team with ASCE Board Members

The next ASCE luncheon is planned for the month of August and will be a joint luncheon with LES. ASCE will lead this luncheon and will be held at the Jubans Restaurant & Bar on Perkins on August 24th. The speaker is scheduled to be Mr. Rudy Simoneaux, Chief of Engineering at the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. Mr. Simoneaux is a past president of the ASCE Baton Rouge branch and also serves on the Louisiana Section. He is scheduled to present on a coastal restoration topic for the ASCE-LES joint luncheon.



ACADIANA BRANCH By Carolyn Chapman, El, Branch President

As my term as ASCE Acadiana President comes to a close, I am thankful for the entire ASCE Acadiana team, as well as the Louisiana Section. The events and luncheons were successful and could not have been made possible without input and time from the entire team.

Our August Luncheon was held at Abacus in Lafayette on August 23, 2023. We would like to thank Tyson Rupnow on Internally Cured Concrete for his presentation. Dr. Rupnow is the Associate Director for Research at LTRC. The team at LCA, formerly known as CAAL, was able to assist us in getting Dr. Rupnow to present for us.



The Acadiana Branch will hosting he Golf our annual Tournament on Friday, September 29, 2023, at Les Vieux Chenes Golf Course in Lafayette. We are excited to get our members out for a day of fun, hopefully with a little cooler weather. Registration will be open until September 25, 2023.

The ASCE team is still looking for volunteers, sponsors and golfers for the tournament. If

interested, please visit the ASCE Acadiana Branch Website for more details and registration.





SHREVEPORT BRANCH By Joshua Walker, PE, President of Shreveport Branch

"It's a hundred and ten, a hundred and ten in the shade..." what a summer it's been! Hot, yes. But, eventful, also. This summer, the SHV branch extended our monthly luncheons into the summer. This new idea proved successful as both June and July meetings were well

attended, the food was great, and there were plenty of smiles throughout the meeting.

Also in SHV, planning has begun for the annual golf tournament to be held on a Friday in October. This event is always fun, and we anticipate a great turnout again this year. We typically have some

support from the LA Tech Student Chapter which provides the students a chance to network with our branch members.

The SHV branch will be hosting the Section Awards Luncheon and Board Meeting on September 22 at the Petroleum Club in downtown Shreveport. We are looking forward to hosting everyone!

As this run as President ends, I want to say a huge "THANK YOU" to the other officers and branch members for their support and attendance. We tried some new things this year as a branch, and I hope momentum continues for these and other ideas in the future to increase member involvement.



NEW ORLEANS BRANCH By Kyle Galloway, PE, Branch President

As promised, the New Orleans Branch continued to deliver excellent programming for our members this summer. In May, we returned to the Bayou Region for the first time since COVID, teaming with the LES Bayou Chapter to host Lafourche Parish President Archie Chaisson, who updated us on infrastructure projects, Hurricane

Ida recovery, and potential public-private partnerships for marsh creation and carbon sequestration projects. In June, we heard from Ghassan Korban, PE, Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans. Mr. Korban updated the membership on key initiatives such as construction of the West Power Complex and installation of Advance Metering Infrastructure. Following the luncheon, members toured the Carrollton Water Treatment Plant and West Power Complex. In July, our members had a chance to keep up with their ethics requirements with a presentation from LAPELS' Chris Aaron. As we close out our year of luncheons, I want to especially thank Kristen Farrington, PE, for recruiting so many wonderful speakers and keeping us on top of our luncheon schedule.

After hours, the Branch hosted another social at Wrong Iron on May 10 – another great opportunity for our members to come together. On July 19, we teamed up with Women's Transportation Seminar for "Headshot Happy Hour." Attendees had the opportunity to get a new headshot at a great price! Big thanks to WTS for leading this event. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone's new LinkedIn profiles!

The Branch had the pleasure of hosting another History & Heritage Dedication, this time for the SWB Drainage System. We dedicated the system on May 23, hosting National Past-President Dr. Norma Jean Mattei, PE, Region 5 Director Lawren Pratt, PE and Governors Rudy Simoneaux, PE, and Ronnie Schumann, PE, USACE New Orleans District Commander Col. Cullen Jones, New Orleans Councilman Freddie King, and of course senior SWB staff and Board members.

Later in August, we will be hosting our annual awards luncheon. I am excited to honor this year's award winners and recap our exciting year. I am also excited to pass the gavel to Ayan Mehrotra, PE. Ayan and I have been colleagues and friends for many years now, and I cannot think of anyone better to take over the Branch. I look forward to supporting him as he continues to serve our members and profession in this new leadership role.

You can keep up with the Branch by following ASCE New Orleans on facebook and LinkedIn or checking our website at www.asceneworleans.org. You can also reach out to us at ASCEneworleans@gmail.com. We hope to see you at our events!



"Headshot Happy Hour" with WTS



 $\mbox{\it Dr.}$ Mattei speaking at the History & Heritage dedication of the SWB drainage system



Kyle Galloway, PE with Archie Chaisson, Lafourche Parish President, and Laura Barnes, PE, President of LES Bayou Chapter

Student News

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS

By Gennie Claros, Student Chapter Recording Secretary

Get ready to be part of a historic event that will revolutionize engineering: the 2024 Gulf Coast ASCE Student Symposium March 7th – 9th, 2024.

The 2024 Gulf Coast ASCE Student Symposium will be an extraordinary fusion of traditional heritage and cutting-edge innovation. By supporting this event, you will empower 350 civil engineering students to embark on a journey of professional and personal development. UNO will host this amazing event for 15 universities from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. The weekend will be packed with innovative engineering competitions and opportunities to learn more about the engineering industry, all culminating in an awards ceremony and Fais Do-Do at UNO!

Your support will enable students to engage in networking opportunities, forge professional relationships with industry leaders, connect with potential employers, and meet supporters like you! We hope you commit to fostering the growth of aspiring engineers while leaving an indelible mark on their professional journeys.

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We have a multitude of events that have sponsorship opportunities for you! Contact us today to secure your sponsorship and be part of this extraordinary journey towards engineering excellence. Each sponsorship will get their company logos printed on the Symposium T-Shirts and Symposium Website along with the opportunity to be on Event banners, Programs, Media Outreach, Company booths, the chance to speak at the event, and a table to set-up for the Networking event.

If you are interested in becoming one of our sponsors for the 2024 Student Symposium, please check out the sponsorship packages that our host team has assembled to determine which one is right for your organization.

Thank you for your consideration,

To receive the details about the Symposium and Sponsorship packages, please call or email us at gcss@uno.edu

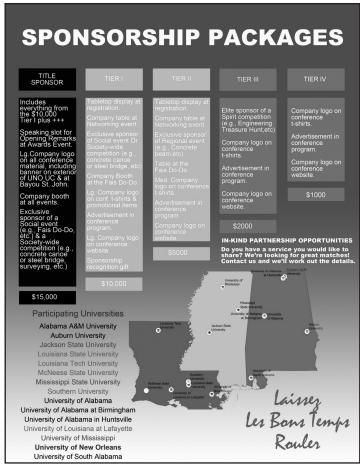
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Chair, 2024 Gulf Coast Student Symposium University of New Orleans, ASCE Student Chapter

Gianna Cothren

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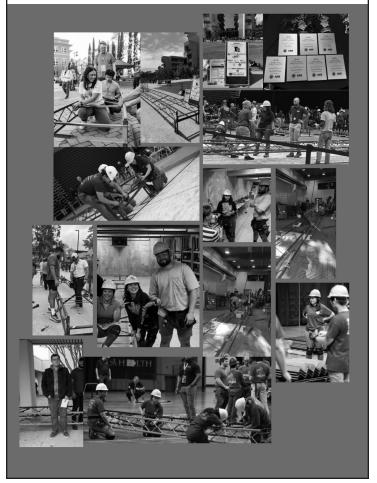


The UNO Steel Bridge Team Journey 2023

The UNO ASCE Steel Bridge Team would like to thank all of our supporters and sponsors of our journey to the AISC Student Steel Bridge Competition Nationals Finals 2023. We are pleased to inform you that the competition was an extraordinary experience for our team. Although we did not secure the top position, the knowledge, skills, and camaraderie we gained throughout the event were invaluable. The UNO Steel Bridge passed the lateral load test but did not pass the vertical load test. Therefore, we were

disqualified this year. Nevertheless, we feel proud in taking an inexperienced team to Nationals Finals and having gained invaluable lessons. The competition was exceptionally challenging, with talented participants from various regions. Despite the outcome, we are filled with contentment for the efforts we put forth and the lessons we learned.

Sincerely, Yelitza P. Cedeno, E. I. T. UNO ASCE, Steel Bridge Team Captain



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE By Claire Organo, UL Public Relations Chair

Overall, last year was a huge success for the ASCE Student Chapter at UL. As a whole, our student involvement and presence around campus has increased significantly. During the spring semester, we were active in the university's Engineering and Technology Week where we competed in several competitions against the other engineering departments. Along with that, a large group from our chapter attended Gulf Coast where we proudly placed in several competitions. Some of our members also volunteered at Avery Island during Bamboo Weekend where we helped clean out the bamboo groves. As a way to celebrate the end of the year and to say farewell to our graduates, we hosted a crawfish boil along with our annual banquet.

To end the semester, our chapter held officer elections to determine leadership roles for the upcoming academic year as well as competition captains for Gulf Coast. Since our chapter is mainly upperclassmen, we immediately decided that one of our main goals for this upcoming year is to focus on underclassmen recruitment. Over the summer, several of our members attended a total of eight expo days that were hosted by the orientation staff. This was an event that was attended by many organizations to allow the incoming freshmen the opportunity to get involved early in their college experience. Through this involvement, our chapter received a substantial amount of interest. We met many students that were interested to hear about everything that we do. Our organization was represented well, and we're hoping this allows us to start off the semester strong!

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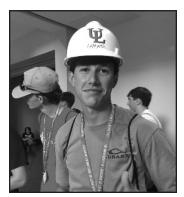
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The student leadership team has been planning many events for the fall semester. We are excited to get more involved with the community as well as receive more interaction from the chapter's alumni. Currently there are details that are being discussed for our

Annual Fall BBQ. We will also be participating in a Clean the Coast event later on in the semester. Our competition teams will soon be forming to start preparing for Gulf Coast that will occur in the spring. As is expected the start of the semester is approaching fast, but as members of this chapter we are so pumped to see what we will be able to accomplish in the next several months!







2023 - 2024 Student Officers

- CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

2023

October 18-21, 2023, ASCE National Conference 2023, Chicago, IL - https://convention.asce.org/

November 16-18, 2023, ASCE INSPIRE Conference 2023, Arlington, VA

Events are constantly being updated online:

For ASCE Society events please see online: https://www.asce.org/conferences_events/ https://www.asce.org/student_conferences/

For ASCE Acadian events please see online: http://branches.asce.org/acadiana/events

For ASCE Baton Rouge events please see online: http://branches.asce.org/baton-rouge/events

For ASCE NOLA events please see online: http://asceneworleans.org/events/

For ASCE Shreveport events please see online: https://www.facebook.com/ASCEShreveport/

For more events visit the ASCE Events Calendar: http://www.lasce.org/calendar.html

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