



Waterways

Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers

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Summer 2009

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Institute Rises to Meet Professional Challenges



Given our professional affinity for the nation's coastal areas, many COPRI members will no doubt travel to the nation's beaches this summer for some well-deserved time for rest, recreation, and family. I am sure that most of us, especially our family members, will spend our time focused on the sun, the sand, the waves, and the water sports.

But if you are like me, you won't leave work completely behind—and your mind will eventually wander over to such issues as why the wave break the way they do? where the next rip current will form? why the sand bars are so pronounced? and a host of other questions. Maybe one of the issues you will ponder, with me, is what will happen to beach and coastal communities as sea levels continue to rise? and what will we do as engineers if some climate change predictions are correct?

ASCE President Wayne Klotz recently joined his counterparts from the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers and the British Institution of Civil Engineers in signing the "Civil Engineering and Climate Change Protocol." This protocol supports ASCE's Policy Statement 488 and brings ASCE, and civil engineers in general, into the climate change debate by endorsing a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Based on President Klotz's blog posting on June 8, and the 39 responses posted in the 10 days since, the issue has struck a nerve with civil engineers, with some respondents

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COPRI Governing Board

David Kriebel, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE

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kriebel@usna.edu

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rnoble@nobleconsultants.com

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jblanchar@aol.com

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Lesly Ewing, P.E., M.ASCE

ASCE Representative
lewing@coastal.ca.gov

A Conversation with the Technical Region Director Nominees

In our Q&A column, intended to allow leaders to share their knowledge and expertise of projects and issues within the COPRI community, this month we turn our focus to the upcoming Technical Region Director Election. Our interviewees are candidates Billy L. Edge, Ph.D., P.E., Dist.M.ASCE, and Robert D. Stevens, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE. This column is taken from their interview responses to a set of questions on how they would approach the position of technical region director. For more information, please visit the 2010 ASCE Election website.



Billy Edge



Robert Stevens

WATERWAYS: What do you anticipate will be some of the likely challenges and opportunities facing the Institutes and the ASCE during your term of office?

BILLY EDGE: The 2009 ASCE Report Card and involvement with the President and Congress positively demonstrates the ability of ASCE to effect long lasting changes in policy and funding of major infrastructure, sustainability, resilience and clean energy. We must remain engaged and build upon the trust in our professional ability to provide needed changes. Institutes must be proactive in recruiting younger members, promoting innovation, technological advancement, educational opportunities, and policy development. With the maturity of the Institutes, we must look beyond ASCE to realize the opportunities and challenges that changing times place before us. We must exploit international growth opportunities.


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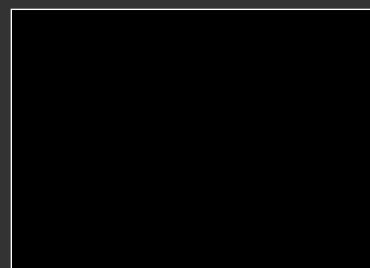
Upcoming Events

Ports 2010 "Building on the Past, Respecting the Future" Sponsorship and Exhibiting Opportunities Available

 Become a Sponsor or Exhibitor at Ports 2010, the twelfth in what continues to be the premier port engineering conference in North America. Over 900 attendees from more than 27 countries are expected to attend! Show your support for this important industry by sponsoring one of the many exciting events at Ports 2010. Put your name and your company's innovative products and services in the spotlight in our busy exhibit hall. To learn more about Sponsorship and Exhibiting opportunities at Ports 2010, please visit www.portsconference.org

Program Available for Coasts, Marine Structures, and Breakwaters in Edinburgh, Scotland, Sept. 16-18

Program information for the Coasts, Marine Structures and Breakwaters 2009 Conference is now available. The conference organized by the Institution of Civil Engineers and supported



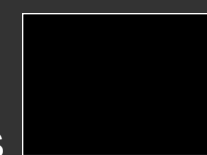
by COPRI, will take place Sept. 16 – 18, 2009 in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. More than 110 high-profile and peer-reviewed presentations will cover the most up-to-date case studies and research in the design, performance, installation and maintenance of breakwaters, seawalls, jetties, piers and beach control structures. For the first time, the latest material on the design and installation of the structures necessary to extract marine and wind energy around nearshore seas and coasts will also be covered.

COPRI members will benefit from discounted fees, allowing them to save \$100 and register for \$545. For more information, to download the program and to register, visit the website: www.ice-breakwaters.com

Help Plan OTC's 1st Arctic Technology Conference

In November 2010, Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) will present its first Arctic Technology Conference (ATC), a separate new conference focusing on both offshore and onshore technology for Arctic oil and gas exploration and development. ASCE, as a Sponsoring Society of the OTC, is forming a committee to assist in the development of the technical program for the ATC. For more information about the ATC, please contact COPRI Director Tom Chase at tchase@asce.org. If you'd like to join the ASCE planning subcommittee, please contact Tom Krzewinski at Thomas_Krzewinski@golder.com

Submit Abstracts Now for 32nd International Conference on Coastal Engineering



The Local Organizing Committee of ICCE 2010 together with the Chinese Ocean Engineering Society warmly invite you to attend the 32nd International Conference on Coastal Engineering, hosted by Nanjing Hydraulic Research Institute and Shanghai Jiaotong University, at the Shanghai International Convention Center in Shanghai, China from June 30 to July 5, 2010. The conference is being organized under the auspices of the Coastal Engineering Research Council of the Coasts, Ocean, Ports and Rivers Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Abstracts are currently being accepted on theory, measurement, analysis, modeling and practice for the following topics:

- coastal processes
- coastal, shore and estuarine structures
- ports, harbors and waterways
- coastal environment
- coastal risks
- coastal development

Practical papers detailing the design, construction, and performance of coastal projects are encouraged. Abstracts are due October 1, 2009. Submit abstract information online at: <http://chl.erdc.usace.army.mil/chlconf/> and submit 2-page abstracts in PDF to icce@usace.army.mil.

ICCE 2010 will include technical exhibition facilities. The exhibition area will be on the first floor of the venue, adjacent to session rooms. Participation in the exhibition is open to all companies and institutions providing services in coastal engineering. Interested exhibitors may contact Mr. Ge Jiufeng (jfge@nhri.cn) for further information.

For more information, please visit the conference website <http://www.icce2010.cn> or e-mail icce2010@nhri.cn

President's Column *continued from page 1*

believing strongly that climate change is part of natural cycles and others believing that it has anthropogenic causes.

I don't profess any wisdom in predicting the future climate change or its causes, but I do know that the climate change debate is increasingly focusing in on issues that we in COPRI care about and have the professional knowledge to speak about. I predict that COPRI members will increasingly be called upon for their expertise in understanding and dealing with sea level rise, storm-induced coastal flooding, ocean wave climate, riverine floods and droughts, and a host of other issues related to the impact of the earth's climate on systems designed by civil engineers.

During my remaining months as your President, I will be working with the COPRI Committee Chairs and the Congress Planning Committee to identify the issues that are important to you, and tailoring our inaugural congress around them. Are you thinking about climate change? Are you interested in renewable energy? Are you wondering about the loss of wetlands or dredging of ship channels? How is your company addressing these issues in your projects? I want to hear from you this year, and hope to meet you at either Ports 2010- Building on the Past, Respecting the Future or at our first COPRI Congress in the fall of 2010, where we will address these issues and more. Please feel free to e-mail me at kriebel@usna.edu.

As COPRI continues to grow, I am pleased to welcome our

newest organizational member—McNally International. A privately-owned construction company specializing in tunnel and marine construction, the company's website states that McNally is a leader in the tunnel and marine sectors. Look for the company's profile in the Fall Waterways.

This month I also would like to thank our COPRI members for their continued dedication, both in their professional lives and as volunteers on behalf of the Institute. Michael McCarthy accepted the Project Excellence Award presented to Moffatt & Nichol on June 10, 2009, for its role in the Bolsa Chica Lowland Restoration. The following week, the ASCE International Coastal Engineering Award was presented to Hans Burcharth, professor emeritus Aalborg University, Denmark, at the Fourth International Short Course on Applied Coastal Research in Barcelona, Spain. The presentation was made by Marcel Stive, a member of the Coastal Engineering Research Council.

William McAnally, who serves on the Waterways Committee and as Chair of its Navigation Subcommittee, received the Hans Albert Einstein Award at the 2009 Environmental Water Resources Congress. McAnally is an associate professor of civil engineering at Mississippi State University.

Whether you head to the beach or not, I hope you find time to enjoy summer with family and friends. And, if your mind does wander over to the important issues facing our world and our profession, you can rest assured that COPRI is the place where you can find others working to address them. ■

A Conversation *continued from page 1*

Robert Stevens: Enhance the Institutes and ASCE "brand value" for the benefit of our members and to attract more civil engineering professionals, paraprofessionals and students to ASCE and the Institutes. Establish closer working relationships with other professional/paraprofessional organizations to increase effectiveness. Promote the ASCE Infrastructure Report Card to convince the public and elected officials at all levels that more funding is needed for infrastructure projects to provide the public with the needed road, water, sewerage, port, rail, transit, structures, and building improvements. Convince more ASCE and Institute members of the value to society and themselves of becoming an ASCE Key Contact.

WATERWAYS: As a Technical Region Director, what would you do to enhance the effectiveness of the Technical Region Board of Governors in serving the members of ASCE and the Institutes?

EDGE: With transformation from a non-action Council of Institute Leaders (CIL) to Technical Region Board of Governors (TRBG), the Institutes relationship with the ASCE mother ship

has been formalized. The current process of communication between the TR Director and Institutes provides an effective way to deliver information in both directions. The Director must ensure ASCE accountability to the Institutes. I believe the TR Directors should make at least one visit annually to each Institute's annual conference and attend each Governing Board's meeting. Lastly, I suggest a joint meeting of engagement between TRBG with the leadership of the geographic regions.

STEVENS: Seek and be responsive to input from members of ASCE and the Institutes by encouraging member emails and by creating a blog for member use. Including the Technical Region Director's Report, which conveys to members what is happening both in ASCE and in the eight-Institute Technical Region, in each Institute's newsletter or magazine would make more members aware of what the Technical Region Directors and TRBG are doing. Enhance the Institute Peer Review/Self Assessment Program, initiated last year by the TRBG, for the cross pollinating of ideas between Institutes including identifying opportunities for more intra-Institute activities for better member service. ■

Become a COPRI Member Today!

If you are not already a COPRI member, we invite you to be a member of the Coasts, Oceans, Ports and Rivers Institute. Becoming a member of this Institute is an excellent way to keep current in your field, enhance your professional skills and network with other specialists in the discipline. You can also join the various committees, which will allow you to actively develop key technical, professional and educational issues of COPRI. Please visit

<http://www.coprinstitute.org/membership/>

or contact Jennifer Moulton at jmoulton@asce.org or (703) 295-6370.

Mark Your Calendar 2009-10

2009

Aug. 10-14 **Water Engineering for a Sustainable Environment, International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research Congress 2009**, Vancouver, British Columbia

Sept. 16-19 **Coast Marine Structures and Breakwaters 2009**, Edinburgh, Scotland

2010

March 6-10 **First International Conference on Coastal Zone Management of River Deltas and Low Land Coastlines**, Alexandria, Egypt

April 25-28 **Ports 2010: Building on the Past, Respecting the Future**, Jacksonville, FL

June 30-July 5 **32nd International Conference on Coastal Engineering**, Shanghai, China

For more industry events visit www.coprinstitute.org/conferences



**The Coasts, Oceans, Ports and Rivers Institute
of the American Society of Civil Engineers**

1801 Alexander Bell Drive
Reston, VA 20191-4400

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