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Fall 2017

Fall Newsletter

A Message from the President

By Bobby Sokolowski, YMF President



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With the holidays fast approaching ASCE San Diego YMF are now well into our first quarter of the YMF year, which confusingly enough, runs from October to September. As summer gave way to fall, we welcomed our members back from our quiet months with a happy hour in Liberty Station. This gave us all a chance to reconnect and offered a smooth transition back into our monthly meetings. General meetings in October and November brought us a pair of intriguing topics, infiltration and the Gilman Drive Bridge, and December's YMF Holiday party will serve as the perfect conclusion to our 2017.

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A Message from ASCE San Diego Section

By Jeff Cooper, ASCE San Diego Section President

We have had an extremely successful and exciting 2017 to date. Our chapter has enjoyed a very active year, full of events including technical topics at lunch programs, awards dinner, educational events, and YMF networking opportunities with our summer social.

Looking forward, I want to call your attention to the Section Awards. The awards are a fantastic way to showcase you, your project, or firm and your client. We are accepting applications now so please visit our website to submit your project or individual. The awards dinner will be in May 2018 and then in June San Diego will host the highly anticipated National Concrete Canoe Competition at SDSU. This will be one of our premier events for the year and we have secured the ASCE National President-Elect to participate in the opening ceremonies.

As we close 2017, I wanted to remind YMF's that getting involved and sharing experiences with colleagues is a priceless benefit and there are numerous opportunities within our San Diego Section to get involved. Please reach out to any Board member, Committee Chair, the Association Manager, Trish Pietrzak, or myself personally to find out how you can play a part in our organization. ♦

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 19

Annual YMF Holiday Party

Jan 6

PE Review Class Starts

Jan 17

UCSD Career Fair

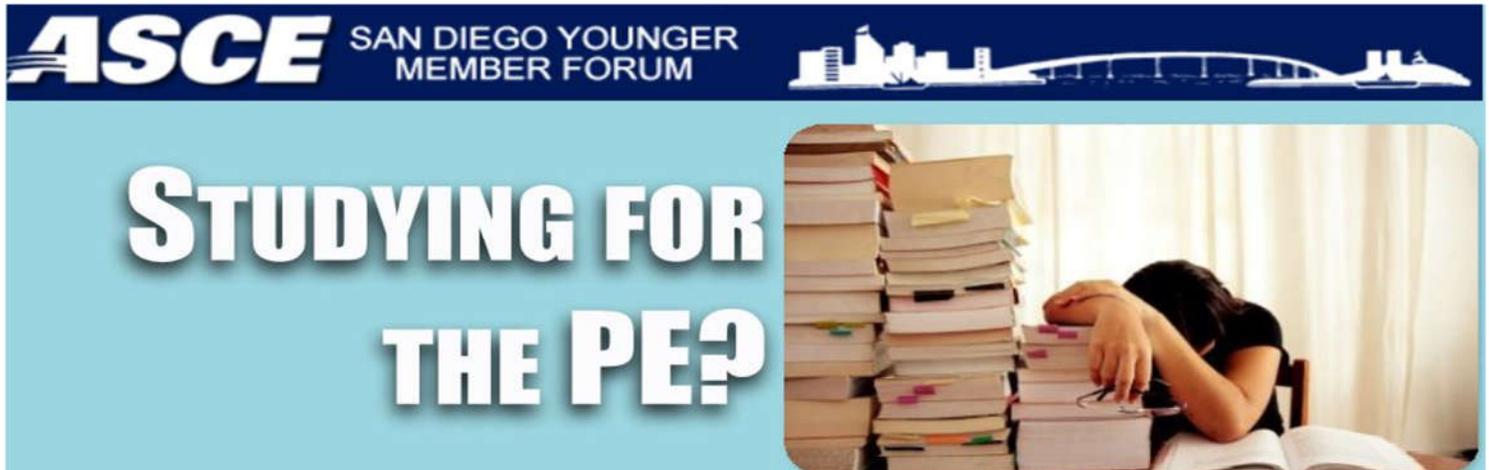
Jan 26

UCSD Student Chapter Event – Lecture Tour
"Advances in the prediction and control of ground deformations"

A Message from the President continued from Page 1

Our new board members have set their goals for the coming year and are off and running, working hard to bring those goals to fruition. Our major collective goals for the year include diversifying our events in order to reach more members as well as automating and streamlining our payment processing for meetings and other events. To this end, our community service and social chairs have been hard at work planning new and exciting events for the year and our treasurer has already implemented online meeting payments on a trial basis. As with all new endeavors, it will take some time to see which of our new ideas work well for us and which need further improvement. As always, we welcome feedback from all of our members. Please feel free to reach out to myself or any other officers, or chat with us at a meeting, to share your feelings on the online payment system, our latest social event, or anything you like!

I am very proud of the work our new board has done in such a short amount of time and am full of optimism and excitement for what we will achieve in the New Year. I look forward to enjoying countless successful events in 2018 with the ASCE SD YMF officers, our current members, and many new members! I encourage all of you to grab a friend or a colleague and come on out our events, I am confident you will have a great time and make lifelong connections!



The banner features the ASCE logo on the left, followed by the text "SAN DIEGO YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM". To the right is a white silhouette of a city skyline and a bridge. Below this, the text "STUDYING FOR THE PE?" is displayed in large, bold, white letters with a drop shadow on a light blue background. On the right side of the banner is a photograph of a person with dark hair, wearing a black shirt, sitting at a desk and leaning their head on their hand, looking tired. The desk is covered with several tall stacks of books and papers.

PE Review Course

By Thomas Smith, PE Review Co-Chair

Are you taking the PE exam in Spring, 2018? The San Diego ASCE YMF offers a PE Review course in which all 5 breadth areas will be covered as well as the California Seismic and Survey subjects. Depth review courses will be offered pending interest from the course registrants and from the instructors. A mock 8-hour PE exam will also be offered. Courses will begin on January 6, 2018. For more information and to sign up for the review courses, please visit the ASCE YMF PE Review website at <http://www.sandiego-ymf.org/pe-review.html>.

UCSD Student Chapter Update

By *Vivianna Gomez, SCSE/UCSD Chapter President*

The Society of Civil and Structural Engineers (SCSE) has been off to a busy and wonderful start! SCSE kicked off the quarter with a design team exposition, where all three design project teams (Steel Bridge, Seismic Design, and Concrete Canoe) displayed their respective projects and answered any questions from members. SCSE brought the community back together at the annual Back to School Bonfire at La Jolla Shores. The community extended past the department when SCSE held their annual service trip through Esperanza International. Thirty-four volunteers dedicated their time and labor to construct houses for families in need across the border in Tijuana, Mexico. In addition, Seismic Outreach (SCSE's Community Outreach Program) hosted 650 elementary students over the quarter, showing them around the campus and teaching them about earthquake engineering. The Sidekicks Mentorship Program launched mid-quarter, pairing an upperclassmen (sidekick) and underclassmen (hero) together within a "crime fighting" squad of four people, with about 40 mentors and mentees.



The quarter continued towards excellence with technical workshops hosted by Seismic Design and Steel Bridge. The project teams co-hosted an AutoCAD and Sapling 2000 workshop for all interested members. The technical preparation of Seismic Design and Steel Bridge paid off as they are ready to start construction next quarter. Concrete Canoe worked diligently all quarter to stay on schedule and train all technical leads. Concrete Canoe completed the construction of the canoe, and are currently working on the competition aspect.

All teams are preparing for competition at Pacific Southwest Conference (PSWC) this upcoming spring quarter. SCSE successfully hosted three general body meetings, resulting in an increase in new members and involvement in project and technical teams. After a successful and event packed quarter, SCSE is looking forward to planning and hosting the annual Structural Engineering Career Fair (SE Day) in January 2018.

A special thank you to all the YMF volunteers that came to the Resume and Interview Workshop for the third GBM! UCSD members truly appreciate all the valuable input and perspective the volunteers bring. UCSD hopes to continue this tradition! To keep updated on any UCSD SCSE events, follows us on Facebook at UCSD SCSE. If you are interested in a sponsorship, SE Day, or being guest speaker opportunity, email Vivianna Gomez at scse.ucsd@gmail.com. Stay tuned for my updated next quarter!

SDSU Student Chapter Update

By *Samuel Alcaraz, SDSU Chapter President*

The SDSU ASCE Student Chapter began this Fall Semester with our annual Officer's Retreat to create team building and focus on goals for the upcoming school year. This semester focused on events including the Back to School BBQ, Glow in the Dark Capture the Flag, Annual Softball Tournament, SDSU Tailgate, YMF Resume Workshop, YMF Speed Interviews and seven General Body Meetings. This led up to the ASCE Professional Development Day where 48 civil, environmental, and construction companies attended, along with over 200 engineering students looking for internships and full time positions.



Our Student Chapter also aimed to improve our surrounding community by attending I Love a Clean San Diego's Annual Beach Cleanup, Engineering Day Tabling at Fleet Science Center, APWA Beach Cleanup, as well as four outreach presentations from our Ambassador Program to teach high schools and community colleges about Civil Engineering and ASCE. Our PSWC teams are also under way with our first Pour Day for Concrete Canoe complete, and finalization of our Steel Bridge design. All of our sports teams have begun practices and even joined club teams for extra competition. We ended our Fall Semester with a Friendsgiving Potluck and Pre-Finals Picnic to de-stress before finals week.

Monthly Meetings

October – Geotechnical Fundamentals of Infiltration BMPs, Percolation Testing, and Design Parameters

By Katie Baker, President-Elect

On October 17th, YMF held our first general meeting of the 2017-2018 year following our summer break. About 30 YMF members gathered at Sufi Mediterranean Cuisine for dinner, drinks, and a presentation on the geotechnical fundamentals of stormwater infiltration best management practices. Mr. David Albus, Principal Engineer at Albus-Keefe and Associates, presented an overview on the principals of water flow through earth materials, with an emphasis on infiltration devices such as open basins, shallow chamber systems, and dry wells. The presentation introduced members to common field tests and discussed the methods of applying the results of field testing to the design of shallow infiltration and dry wells systems. Finally, the presentation concluded with a general discussion on incorporating these methods into the current low-impact development (LID) procedures. Mr. Albus' considerable experience, including a leading role in the development of methods for testing and designing infiltration devices, provided great insight to our members.

As part of an effort to introduce our members to the wide variety of ASCE resources that are available, our October meeting was the first to feature an introduction to the ASCE Institutes. Lydia Marshall, PE, is the Chair of the San Diego Geo-Institute Chapter, and she introduced the local group. Her presentation included information on when and where they meet, how to get involved, and some of the resources that are available to local geotechnical engineers.

November – Design and Construction of the UCSD Gilman Bridge

By Katie Baker, President-Elect

The November monthly meeting featured an outstanding presentation by Gernot Komar, Dipl.-Ing., PE of Moffat & Nichol. The presentation introduced our members to the design and construction of the new Gilman Drive Bridge, which upon its completion will serve as a striking gateway to UCSD. Currently, there is only a single crossing over I-5 connecting the University's East and West Campuses. A second crossing over I-5 will provide a vital link to improve campus accessibility and complete the University's Master Plan.

About 25 YMF members attended the November 21st meeting, learning about the history of this project and some of the challenges faced by the design engineers. The presentation also featured photos from the first few months of construction, providing a unique perspective to our members. The November monthly meeting also featured an introduction to the ASCE Transportation and Development Institute with a brief presentation from Mitch Duran, PE. Mitch is the Co-Chair and Treasurer of the San Diego Transportation Technical Group. Mitch's presentation provided an overview of the group, how to join, and the benefits of being involved for local transportation engineers.



Community Service

Contributing to our local community is a key value for YMF. Here's a recap of our impact over the last few months! If you're interested in participating in any of our upcoming volunteer events, or if you have suggestions for other volunteer opportunities, contact our VP of Community Service, Eric Kelley, at ekelley@novagr.com.

Engineering Festival at the Fleet Science Center

By Vanessa Tarronas, E-Day Co-Chair

YMF helped coordinate and also volunteered at the San Diego Fleet Science Center's first ever Engineering Festival on October 14th. The event was geared towards kids of all ages and their families. Similar to our yearly Engineering Day at the Mall event, there were multiple booths from different engineering organizations that provided a kid friendly engineering activity. YMF's activity included rolls of paper and tape into triangular shapes to build structures, then tested the kids' structures with the weight of engineering books. Thanks to all the organizations and volunteers who came and taught kids about engineering!



Orange Glen Elementary School STREAM Program

By Nardin Metwashla, Webmaster



In partnership with Orange Glen Elementary School's STREAM (Science, Technology, Research, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) Program, YMF volunteers are participating in a series of Civil Engineering-based presentations and hands-on activities for 100 5th Grade students. This is the first year of the program and will involve five presentations on different engineering topics. Each presentation is followed by a month of student research which includes creating models. These models are presented by the students and tested at the end of the month. Students get a chance to learn a new topic, apply the skills they learned, and test out those skills in groups. We began presentations in October with Earthquake Engineering in which students built mini-buildings out of toothpicks and marshmallows and shook them on a shake table made of Jello. The second presentation involved bridge design. Students plan and construct a bridge out of popsicle sticks that must be within specific dimensions and maintain a specified budget. Feedback from students and teachers has been very positive so far! There are three topics remaining this school year and the next one is on water filtration.

Fundraisers and Student Outreach

ASCE Golf Tournament

By Josh Olmedo, Golf Co-Chair

YMF partnered with ASCE San Diego Section for the annual ASCE Golf Tournament. The Golf Tournament serves as one of the largest fundraising events for ASCE Section and YMF, a portion of the funds raised helps ASCE in promoting Civil Engineers throughout our community by supporting local engineering outreach events and scholarships which benefit students at elementary, high school, and college level. This year's tournament was held on Thursday September 14th at the Rancho Bernardo Inn Golf Course, the tournament had 111 players with the help and sponsorship of over 30 local engineering companies.

Student Chapter Resume Workshops

By Miguel Gonzalez, VP Education

Every year, YMF facilitates a resume workshop for the SDSU and UCSD student chapters. As of late, we've been incorporating interview skills development as well.

SDSU's workshop was broken into two parts. The first, on October 31st, covered solely resume writing tips. A presentation covering the topic was given by Tan Cao, PE and Miguel Gonzalez, EIT. The second part, on November 2nd, was a speed interview event. We had YMF volunteers conduct the mock interviews. Students rotated through each of the volunteers, with interviews lapsing after seven minutes.



UCSD's workshop, on November 13th, although with the same goals in mind, was designed a bit differently. This time, the room was divided into two stations. YMF volunteers were in attendance, again, and split between these stations. Students were free to move between the stations. At the first, they could have their resume reviewed, and at the second, mock interviews were being held.

These workshops went great and were well received. A big thanks to all the volunteers who made these events possible.

Social Events

Welcome Back Happy Hour

By Stephanie Catubig, Social Co-Chair

The Welcome Back Happy Hour, held on September 19th, was a strong start to the beginning of our new year. With almost 50 attendees, our group packed the outside patio of Soda & Swine. New and returning faces were welcomed with our lively bustle, lots of smiles, and of course, the smell of amazing food. With plenty of people to greet and lots to eat, the night was eventful and set the tone for the rest of the year. Many members were excited about the new year to come!

Night at Petco – Padres vs. Rockies

By Tan Cao, Treasurer

In late September we hosted a baseball outing in prime foul ball territory of Petco Park. Throughout the night our group was out-and-about grabbing a hotdog, performing the wave with the crowd, or garnering attention for the giveaways. The Padres took on the Rockies at home, but couldn't pull out as a win as they lost 4-1 with a homerun in the late innings to seal our fate. Regardless, Petco remains one of the most exciting venues to host our summer events. Hope to see you at the next one!

Hornblower Sights and Sips Cruise

By Stephanie Catubig, Social Co-Chair

On October 20th, we set sail on a Hornblower Sights & Sips Cruise for our first social of the year. The cruise was one of the last of the season and a great way to celebrate the end of summer. Our group was a good mixture of grad students and professionals, all of whom agreed this was the perfect way to unwind after a long week of work. When we weren't chasing down appetizers and enjoying the beautiful views of downtown San Diego, we were able to make new friends and reconnect with familiar faces. It's like they say: "there are big ships and small ships, but the best ship of all is friendship."



Hike and Brunch

By Elizabeth Schalo, Newsletter Chair

On a sunny day in November, we took advantage of San Diego's temperate climate and went for a hike in Torrey Pines State Park. The hike started at the top of the cliffs and meandered through a couple of the many trails offered at the park. One trail led us to a high point where we enjoyed the fresh air and scenic views of the Pacific Ocean. Another trail led us towards the beach where we watched the high tide lap against the staircase at the end of the trail. After working up an appetite from the hike, we enjoyed a much-needed brunch at the Broken Yolk Café in Del Mar.

Summer 2017 Recap

June Happy Hour

By Tan Cao, Treasurer

An official kick-off to the summer was in order and we reserved a cabana on the patio of Ballast Point to celebrate on June 20th. With so many great breweries in San Diego, it was a hard to decide which one to host at! Over 30 of our local members were in attendance as we socialized about the long list of beers on tap or the upcoming weekend. Small bites were also provided compliments of YMF (we can't let the thriving minds of our members go without brain fuel). The event ended just as a quintessential San Diego sunset turned to night.

Joint June Summer Social with ASCE San Diego Section

By Tan Cao, Treasurer

This year we worked with ASCE Section to host a summer event on the patio of the Handlery Hotel on June 27th. It was located outside and provided a refreshingly different atmosphere to mingle with Section members. It even had a popular buffet-style carving table as part of the food offerings. Both YMF and Section provided updates to their current agenda including awards and honors to several key individuals.

An Evening of Dreaming Big at Fleet Science Center

By Eric Kelley, VP Community Service

Hundreds of eager youngsters descended on the Fleet Science Center on August 10th to listen to a panel of professionals explain why they are passionate about being an Engineer, watch the jaw-dropping Dream Big movie about civil engineering on the wrap-around IMAX screen, and most importantly, interact with some pretty cool YMF volunteers. Our volunteers organized a hands-on seismic shake-table activity for the kids. The materials: marshmallows and toothpicks. The seismic medium: Jello! Like many of the best civil-engineering solutions, it was low-tech but effective. Hats off to our volunteers for a great event!



BEWISE at Fleet Science Center

By Eric Kelley, VP Community Service

On August 26th, YMF member Mishi Joshi led the charge as some of our chapter's finest women engineers volunteered at the Fleet Science Center to mentor young ladies who are interested in Engineering. The girls loved the hands-on activity that YMF set up, and are even more excited to explore a future in Engineering.

Featured Member

Do You Know Singh Randhawa?

By Max Dugan, Membership Chair

Where are you from and what first brought you to San Diego?

I was born and raised in India, where I earned my Bachelor's Degree in civil engineering. I moved to San Diego to complete a Master's Degree in Structural Engineering at UC San Diego.

Where do you work?

I am completing my graduate degree at UC San Diego, and will be graduating in December. I am specializing in structural analysis, design and earthquake engineering. During my time at UC I was also a TA for undergraduate fluid mechanics. My favorite part of being a student is the flexible schedule and diversity of people on campus that I get to interact with.

What are your favorite YMF events?

I look forward mostly to the monthly meetings and social events. The meetings are a great opportunity to meet and interact with young engineers. I like the social events like hikes and happy hours for the opportunity to interact with other engineering professionals outside the work or academic setting.

What is the one thing you've learned from your participation with YMF?

No matter how busy you are, you can always take time to connect with your fellow engineers.



Tell us an interesting fact about you!

I am a competent enough chef to cook most of my (and my friends'!) meals, with north Indian cuisine being my specialty. That being said, I have tried my hands on American, French, British, and Middle Eastern cuisine too (with positive results).



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