

The year in review, the year ahead for Region 9

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As I enter my third and final year as your Director, it continues to be my pleasure to serve in this role as I am constantly thankful for the great volunteers that enhance the benefits of being a member of ASCE! I firmly believe that we practice the greatest profession and that ASCE is key to our growth as professionals. My role as Director follows the great lead of those that came before me as well as the good stewardship model of this organization. I am thankful to all previous Directors that set the path forward.

During this past ASCE fiscal year (October 2021 to September 2022), we reinitiated in-person Region 9 events including the California Infrastructure Symposium (CAIS) and Region 9 Awards held last April in San Francisco. The CAIS was hugely successful with 200 attendees and great programs addressing transportation and development, water and environment and statewide issues of concern. The San Francisco Section volunteers and administrators did a great job in planning and presenting the CAIS. The CAIS was followed by the annual Region 9 Award event which was completely sold out! A total of 37 awards were granted covering projects and individuals that were selected for special acknowledgement based upon the best projects and most deserving individuals that had previously been selected for award at the Branch and Section levels. Thank you, to Governor Christine Rice, the Awards Committee Chair, for a superb event. President-Elect Maria Lehman was present for the entire day, provided a keynote speech and helped to give the awards. Please mark your calendars for the next CAIS and Awards events to be held on April 20/21, 2023 at the Bahia Hotel in San Diego.

Each May, the Society holds its annual elections and, this year, Sue Hida was elected as the Sacramento Section Governor for a three-year term and Rune Storesund was re-elected as the San Francisco Section Governor. Congratulations to them both! Thank you to Elias Karam, who has finished his term as Sacramento Section Governor.

In August, for the second year in a row, we held our Region 9 Leadership Training event, known as Camp Region 9, to train our future leaders and have some fun too! We covered the purpose and goals of the Region, our organizational structure and budget, and, as well, held team building activities. This virtual event will occur each year and all members are invited to participate.

We had the honor to host the Annual ASCE Convention this past October at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. As the Local Committee Chair, I organized a group of outstanding volunteers to coordinate great field trips and special events. The Convention was fantastic, a great success and was attended by over 800 ASCE members. There were 45 technical sessions, multiple panels and keynote speakers. During the Convention, our new President, Maria Lehman, was sworn in and our President-Elect, Marsia Geldert-Murphy, was also sworn in. Additionally, the new Director at Large, our own Rossana D'Antonio, was sworn in to the Board of Direction. In addition to Rossana, we have Elizabeth Ruedas, serving as the Younger Member Board Member, and myself on the Board of Direction. It is truly a unique time to have three seats held by Region 9 members on the ASCE Board of Direction!

To help achieve the Region's goals, the Region has, in addition to the Director, six Governors - one for each of the Region's four Sections, and two At-Large Governors. Your Governors and their roles on the Board are as follows:

- Kathereen Shinkai (Vice-Chair), Governor At-Large
- Rune Storesund, Governor from the San Francisco Section
- Tapas Dutta, Governor from the Los Angeles Section
- Patricia McColl, Governor from the San Diego Section
- Sue Hida, Governor from the Sacramento Section
- Christine Rice, Governor-at-Large

One of the responsibilities of our Governors is to visit with the Sections, Branches, Younger Member Groups, Student Chapters, Institute Chapters, and Life Member Groups to gain an understanding of their needs and challenges. The Region is happy to help in any way we can. We are your link to the Society's Board of Direction and can bring to the attention of the Society Board any issues that may require action. For your Governors to learn more about your successes, needs, and challenges, please invite a Governor to your next event. The Governors contact can be found on the Region 9 website, <http://regions.asce.org/region9>. You are also welcome to contact me to attend an event, to address any questions, or to convey an idea you believe will benefit the members in your local organization. My direct contact information is below. The Region 9 Governors and I would like the opportunity to assist you in making your local entity and activities a success.

ASCE is currently in our membership renewal period. Membership is a great value for all of the services that are provided with your annual fee. Don't forget to also support your local Section and Institutes through membership. Every Civil Engineer should be a member of ASCE, please refer nonmembers. Most importantly, now is the time to renew your membership. I have done so, please join me today. My priorities for my term include enhancing our membership numbers. We are all stronger as a team and a voice for civil engineering with more members. This fosters betterments for the profession and all civil engineers. In Region 9, we have over 17,000 members which represents over 10% of all of the ASCE members. Yet, many civil engineers in California are not yet members of ASCE. ASCE is the preeminent professional civil engineering organization

and works very hard for you to protect our profession, repel threats to licensure, push legislatures for investments in infrastructure and address many public policy issues of importance for the public health, safety and welfare. We hold paramount our Code of Ethics, we invest in ourselves through educational offerings, we offer many technical publications and self-learning opportunities through our Institutes, we offer leadership training, leadership opportunities and we offer comradery and friendship amongst our peers. I ask you to join me in this effort.

I am very thrilled to be representing you and look forward to meeting you. I wish you all the best, thank you, again, for your support in my term as Director. Feel free to reach out to me for any needs at KennethRosenfield.ASCE@gmail.com or call me on my mobile phone at (949) 322-8560.