

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings from the LVASCE Board of Directors.

I'd like to kick off our February newsletter by offering my heartfelt thanks to the members of the Lehigh Valley Section who have continued their steadfast support of our programs and projects during this challenging time. In January, we had record levels of participation in our two webinars. There were 23 participants in the Reading Branch presentation "Solar Ecology in Engineering" by **Tim Mills**; and **Ann Tomalavage's** History and Heritage seminar on the Pont du Gard—a Roman aqueduct bridge—drew 58 participants!

Your enthusiastic participation in these events is much appreciated—especially because we are unlikely to see any significant relief from COVID-related restrictions on face-to-face events in the near future. This month, we received the following written guidance from the ASCE President and Executive Director: "We strongly encourage you to pursue alternative options, such as the use of virtual platforms for meetings to be held through June 30, 2021." The Lehigh Valley Section will continue to follow this guidance until there is a significant improvement in the situation.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions about any aspect of the Section's programs and governance. Please don't hesitate to contact me at sjressler@gmail.com.

Steve Ressler, PE, PhD, Dist.M.ASCE

UPCOMING EVENTS

On February 10th at noon, **Bill MacNair** and **Tom Power** will present "Engineering Infrastructure in Developing Countries"—an overview of their work with the Lehigh Professional Section of **Engineers without Borders** in the Dominican Republic and Sierra Leone. The webinar is free, and registered participants will receive 1.0 PDH. Please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/wg8pqq6l>

Lehigh University has just announced the three speakers in this year's online Fazlur R. Khan Distinguished Lecture Series, which honors the legacy of the legendary structural engineer, Fazlur Khan. The 2021 lineup is as follows:

- Thursday, February 18, 4:30 pm - "Crossing Domains" by **Jeanne Gang**, Founding Principal and Partner, Studio Gang, Chicago
- Thursday, March 11, 4:30 pm - "Performance-based Seismic Design of Tall Buildings" by **Jack Moehle**, Professor of the Graduate School, University of California, Berkeley
- Thursday, April 15, 4:30 pm - "Understanding the Seismic Performance of Structural Systems through Large-scale Experiments and Computational Simulations" by **P. Benson Shing**, Professor, Department of Structural Engineering, University of California, San Diego



Additional info and registration links can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/3cxfh7vf> The Lehigh Valley Chapter of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) will award 1.0 PDH to all eligible participants in each of these lectures.

Unfortunately, "Virtual Dream Big," our planned educational outreach program for National Engineers Week 2021, has been cancelled. Due to a COVID-related staff reorganization at ASCE headquarters, the Society's planned free online screenings of the "Dream Big" film will not occur. Given that these screenings were integral to our planned outreach event, we are unable to conduct the event. Our apologies to anyone who was inconvenienced by this decision—and, especially, to the kids and teachers who will need to wait another year to experience "Dream Big."

GET INVOLVED: ASCE INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT CARD FOR PENNSYLVANIA

ASCE's Pennsylvania State Council is seeking volunteers for the development of the 2022 Infrastructure Report Card for 2022. If interested, please e-mail 2022painfrastructurereportcard@gmail.com



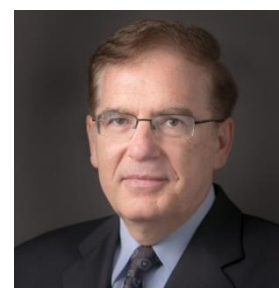
LVASCE MEMBER SURVEY



Our annual on-line **LVASCE Member Survey** is open now and will be available through February 9th. The purpose of this online survey is to get your input on how we can tailor our technical, professional, and social programs and activities to better meet your needs. The survey is anonymous (though we encourage you to include your contact information on an optional basis), and it should only take about 10 minutes to complete. Please support the Lehigh Valley Section by providing your input. Civil engineers who are not ASCE members are welcome and encouraged to participate. The link is: <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ehfe0e9ykhwgizgg/start>

AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

We are delighted to announce that **Professor Panos Diplas, Ph.D., P.E., F.EWRI, F.ASCE** has been selected by the ASCE's Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) to receive the **2021 Hunter Rouse Hydraulic Engineering Award** for "fundamental contributions to the role of turbulence in sediment transport, ecohydraulics, stream restoration and scour." Professor Diplas is the P.C. Rossin Professor of Water Resources Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Lehigh University. *Congratulations, Panos!*



LVASCE 100th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



Planning for the 100th Anniversary of the Lehigh Valley Section is now underway. Many thanks to our 100th Anniversary Planning Committee members—**Pete Terry** (Chair), **Cheryl Rishcoff**, **Ben Guthrie**, **Greg Kuklinski**, **Chas Snyder**, **John Caparella**, and **Dave Wieller**—who have already made great progress.

We will commemorate the Centennial with a series of events and projects throughout 2022—including the following:

- Development of a commemorative photo book depicting the Lehigh Valley region's greatest 100 civil engineering works.
- Collaboration with the National Museum of Industrial History (NMIH) to develop commemorative exhibits and present educational lectures about civil engineering in the Lehigh Valley.
- Educational outreach activities with students from local schools.
- Guided tours and presentations on the Lehigh Valley Section's six National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks.
- Formal release of ASCE's Infrastructure Report Card for Pennsylvania.
- A gala banquet in December 2022 to close the Centennial celebration.

If you have any other ideas for the 100th Anniversary commemoration, please contact Pete at peter.terry@bencivil.com

SECTION AWARDS

We are now accepting nominations for our annual awards—**Engineer of the Year**, **Young Engineer of the Year**, and **Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement of 2020**. Please support the profession by elevating our best people and projects for public recognition. Details are provided on our website at <https://www.lvasce.org/events/asce-awards/>



SUPPORT LVASCE

Your corporate sponsorship will support our professional development programs, educational outreach, legislative activities, and scholarship fund. Sign up on our website at:

<https://www.lvasce.org/sponsor/>

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