



TEXAS SECTION
Austin Branch

ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

May 2022

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MAY BRANCH MEETING

BY TYLER DUBE, P.E.

REGISTRATION REGISTER BY 5/13 AT 12PM

▶ DATE | 5/17/2022, 11:30am - 1:00pm

▶ LOCATION | Balcones Country Club

▶ Zoom Virtual Meeting

LINK | [Click here for In Person](#)

[Click here for Virtual](#)

MEETING TOPIC

Understanding and Managing PFAS Risks and Cleanup Options

Please join us for our May branch meeting. We will receive a presentation on Understand and Managing PFAS Risks and Cleanup Options from Viraj deSilva, PhD, PE, BCEE who is a Sr. Treatment Process Leader at Freese and Nichols, Inc.

MEET THE SPEAKER

Dr. deSilva has more than 29 years of experience on water and wastewater treatment projects across the U.S. and 12 other countries, including PFAS management and treatment projects in five states working with airports, landfills, and other contaminated sites. He has been published in or presented at over 170 industry journals and conferences; authored EPA, WEF, ASCE and AWWA manuals of practice; and his recent PFAS work is cited in AWWA and EPA publications. Dr. deSilva currently serves on the WEF PFAS Task Force and works closely with the national EPA Council on PFAS and state agencies for development of the new PFAS regulations. Dr. deSilva's AWWA's paper Managing and treating PFAS in membrane concentrates has been selected for the 2021 AWWA Membrane Treatment Best Paper AWARD.



Viraj deSilva, PhD, PE, BCEE

THANK YOU TO THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR!



Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) plans, designs and manages infrastructure projects with a focus on quality, as well as innovative and sustainable solutions. Founded in 1894, FNI offers stability as a long-term trusted advisor and utilizes its national expertise to meet contemporary challenges. As the first engineering/architecture firm to earn the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, FNI consistently delivers award-winning solutions backed by client-focused support.

FNI's 900+ employees work together to uphold the company's mission: Innovative Approaches ... Practical Results ... Outstanding Service. Our company culture is guided by a set of values that cultivates an environment of respect and ethical actions.

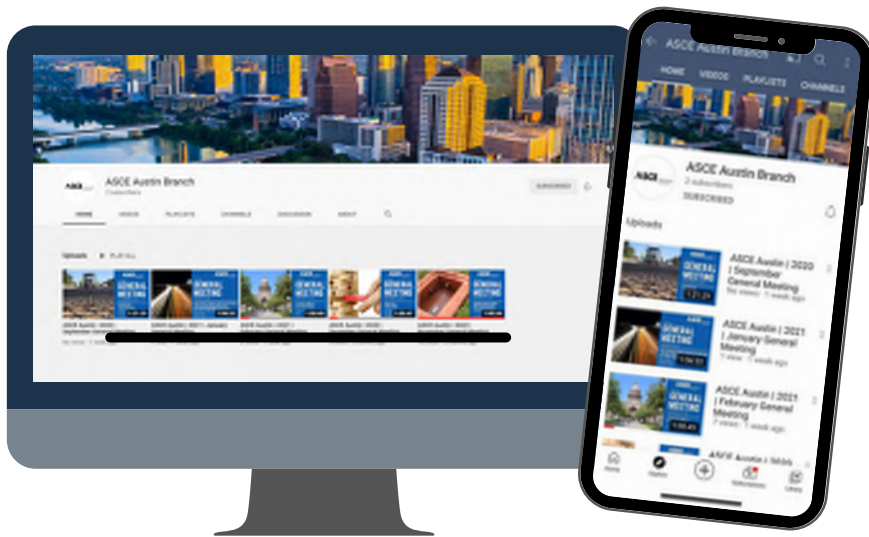
Across offices in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Texas, our multidiscipline teams are integrally connected to provide seamless, professional consulting services. We help clients through all stages of the project life cycle: planning, design, program management, funding procurement, regulatory and environmental compliance, construction management, and operations and maintenance

AUSTIN BRANCH YOUTUBE CHANNEL

BY GRISELDA VANESSA QUINTERO, EIT

Did you miss a past meeting? Don't sweat it! You can now watch past virtual meetings on our YouTube channel. Click [here](#) to check out the YouTube page, and click below to view the following meeting recordings:

April 2022	"Overview of the City of Austin & Mobility35: Cap and Stitch project" by Mike Trimble PMP
March 2022	"Barbours Cut Terminal – Container Port Wharf Expansion Design" by Jeremiah Fasl, PhD, PE
January 2022	"City of Austin Vision Zero Initiative" by Lewis Leff and Cody Stone
December 2021	"TPELS Ethics Presentation" by Virginia Essary



COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

BY LAURA FRIELLO, P.E. AND MICHAEL CHAVEZ, P.E.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT: CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD BANK RECAP

On April 30th, ASCE Austin Branch rolled up our sleeves and helped the Central Texas Food Bank! We helped at the warehouse by inspecting and preparing food donations for distribution. Our efforts helped to provide 150 boxes of food, or 3375 meals!

Thank you all for making this wonderful year of service for ASCE Austin Branch!

Please email communityoutreach@austinasce.org if you have any questions.



BY CLINT SMITH, E.I.T. C.F.M.

We are excited to see everyone at our upcoming events!

Austin ASCE YMF Golf Tournament:

We especially want to thank all of our sponsors and everyone who came out to play the course!

Service Event: Sammy's House



Join us for a service event at Sammy's House on May 21st at 9 AM!

All are welcome!
Register [HERE](#)

Upcoming Board Positions:

In addition to our current board positions, ASCE YMF will be expanding our board with three (3) new members in the next board cycle (starting in June). Two board positions will be focused on fundraising and events, while the 3rd position will be focused on being Liaison to either the Texas Section of ASCE or the University of Texas at Austin and Texas State University ASCE Chapters. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please reach out!

Central Region Younger Member Conference (CRYMC) and Young Member Leadership Symposium (YMLS):

August 12-14, 2022 in Austin, TX

YMC+ programming is currently in development. Session content will include topics such as: Introduction to Personal Vision, Developing Your Personal Vision, Communication Styles, Personal Recharge, Strategic Networking, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Effective Planned and Impromptu Presentation Skills, and Engineering Your Time.

Standard elements of Younger Member Councils will also take place at each location. These are the Annual Business Meeting for Younger Member groups, CYM Townhall and Roundtables, Local Social Events and Activities, and YMC Awards Recognition.



[@ymfaustin](#)



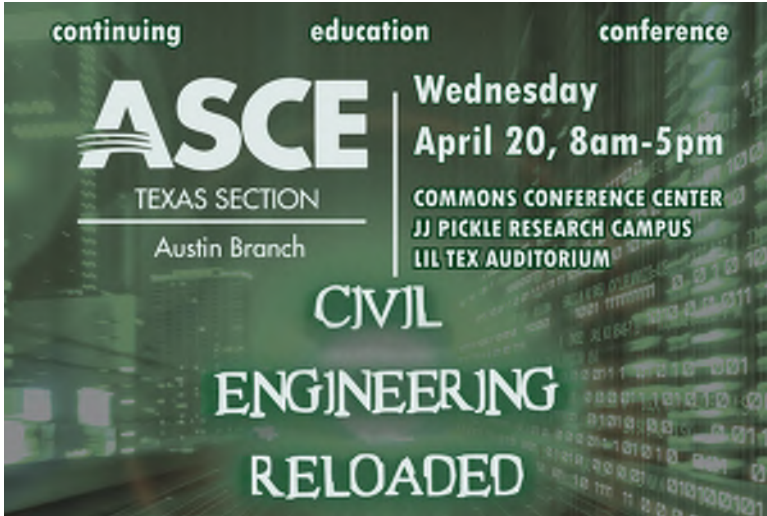
[ASCE YMF ATX](#)



[austinasce.org/
younger-members](http://austinasce.org/younger-members)

If you are interested in learning more about ASCE YMF ATX, please contact director Kaylyn Hudson at Kaylyn.hudson@freese.com.

BY JANE ELLEN CARTER, E.I.T. AND STEVE ZOBAL



We especially want to thank all of everyone who came out to participate, our sponsors, and all who helped make our 2022 Austin Branch Continuing Education Conference a success! We had approximately 75 in attendance, both in person and virtual. We hope you'll join us next year!

BY ANDREA BRYANT, P.E.

Upcoming Board Positions:

The Government Affairs Committee is the branch of ASCE that connects civil engineers with public policy. We engage with elected officials to advocate for infrastructure improvements and lend our technical expertise to promote sound public policy.

One of the easiest ways to become involved is to become a Key Contact. A Key Contact is an ASCE member who is interested in public policy. Key Contacts sign up to receive Key Alert emails, which contain information about upcoming public policy and include a requested action,

which is usually sending a pre-drafted email to your legislators in support of ASCE priorities that you are welcome to personalize. Sending a pre-drafted email takes less than 5 minutes and goes a long way in promoting ASCE's priorities and the civil engineering industry. You can read more about the Key Contact program and sign up here: <https://www.asce.org/advocacy/key-contacts>.

If you are interested in being part of the Government Affairs Committee, please reach out at GovernmentRelations@austinasce.org.

Written & compiled by Andrea Bryant PE, Government Affairs Committee Chair





EWRI UPDATE

BY SARAH DAVIS, P.E. C.F.M.

17th Annual Continuing Education Workshop:

Be on the lookout for registration information on our website here: <https://www.austinasce.org/ewri-workshop>

POSTER PRESENTATION DETAILS

EWRI is happy to invite the Austin EWRI community to submit an abstract for Poster Presentation during the Annual Continuing Education Workshop on May 13, 2022. The poster presentation is open for all. As an added bonus, select presenters will be invited to give a Lightning Talk (supporting their poster) on the main stage.

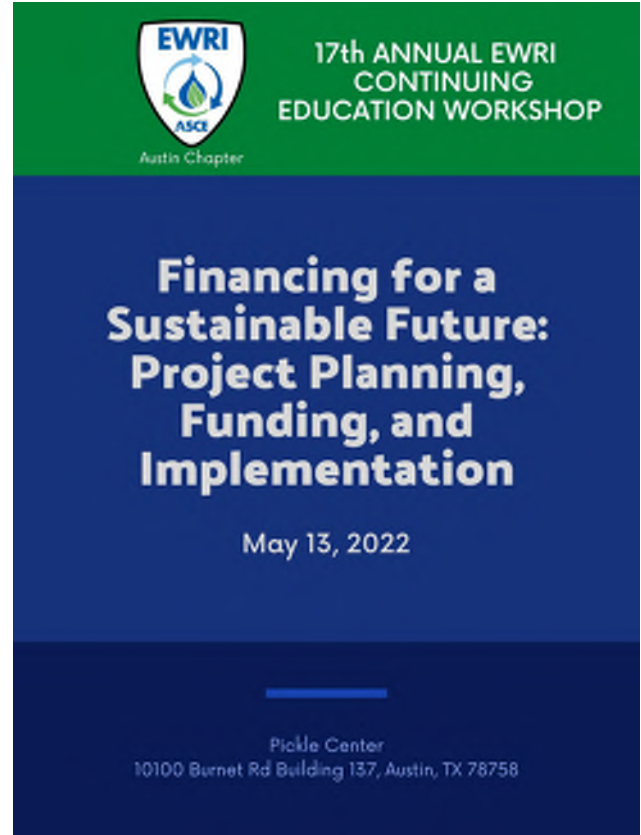
- There is no cost to participate in the poster presentation, but the presenter must be registered to attend the workshop.
- The poster should be on a topic related to environmental, water resources, or the theme of the workshop "Financing for a Sustainable Future: Project Planning, Funding, and Implementation".
- Only one poster is accepted per individual or a firm.
- Students are encouraged to participate in the poster presentation. A student poster competition will be held if enough student abstracts are received.
- EWRI will start receiving poster abstracts from 8:00 am on April 11, 2022.

EWRI will provide space to display posters in the conference area. Due to space limitations, only 15 abstracts (with relevant topics) will be selected on first come first serve.

LIGHTNING TALK DETAILS

- Presenters for the first 8 abstracts received will get an opportunity to do a lightening talk about their poster.
- The lightning talk is optional and the presenter can choose not to participate.
- Each lightening talk will be strictly limited to 3 minutes.

All eight lightening talks will be grouped together in a session.



WORKSHOP SPONSORS

Austin EWRI is very grateful to the sponsors of the 17th Annual Continuing Education Workshop, we truly could not put on the event without you! Additionally, your support helps us give back and support the next generation of water resources and environmental Engineers through our scholarship program. Thank you for your generous support!

If your company would like the sponsor the 2022 Workshop, please email our communications chair, Leigh Ruhnau at ewri.communications@austinasce.org or you may purchase through eventbrite using the link below. Sponsorships are \$350 and sponsors receive a table booth space at the event, reduced registration rates and display of sponsor's logo on event materials. <https://tinyurl.com/EWRISponsors>



AUSTIN BRANCH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

BY BRADLEY EAST, P.E.

If you're looking for ways to get more involved with your local ASCE branch, you're in luck! We're actively recruiting for multiple open positions for ASCE Austin, EWRI, SEI, and more. We have also begun planning for next year's board and committee positions. If you are interested, please contact our Nominations Committee Chair, Bradley East, at beast@polarisforensics.com.



Greetings from the SEI Austin Chapter! As the temperatures heat up and the academic school year comes to a close, we reflect on the great program we've been able to maintain for the local structural engineering community. Over the past year, we've learned about Bridge Load Testing with Digital Image Correlation Technology, the Dallas Southern Gateway Bridge, the new Q2 Stadium, the Barbour's Cut Terminal Wharf Expansion, and many other exciting topics. Thank you sincerely for making time to join us at our Professional Meetings and sharing in these important and interesting knowledge transfer opportunities. These events would not be possible without your support! Our chapter will be taking a break over the summer, and we'll kick off our fall program in late August.

Professional Meeting (Virtual):

At noon on May 24th, Dr. Jiqiu Yuan with the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) will present: Transfer Research into Application, Lessons Learned in Seismic Code Development. Dr. Yuan will draw on his 15 years of research experience in earthquake engineering as well as his code writing experience to discuss turning research into application. More information on Dr. Jiqiu Yuan, as well as registration details, can be found at our website

Structural Engineering Talks (SET) : POSTPONED

Due to continuing repercussions from COVID, SET 2022 is postponed. The SEI Austin board is working diligently to re-schedule this truly unique event. For now, you can find links to past SET presentations as well as updates at <https://www.austinasce.org/sei/set>.



Additional Opportunities & Resources:

1. New National SEI Website

Take a look at the new more user friendly design: Visit [SEI Now](#)

2. SEI Standards Series

Join live, virtual sessions for exclusive interaction with expert ASCE/SEI Standard developers on state-of-the-market updates. Participants will learn about technical revisions and review a design example. Attendees are encouraged to join and participate in Live Q&A. The next one is on Sept 16th and will focus on ASCE/SEI 59 Blast Protection of Buildings. REGISTER NOW at <https://cutt.ly/9hQDTEo>

3. SEI Structures Congress 2020 Proceedings

<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/book/10.1061/9780784482896> This site provides access to the papers that were to be presented at the 2020 Structures Congress.

4. ASCE Collaborate

<https://collaborate.asce.org/events/events200>

This is a collaboration page normally reserved for ASCE members but now open to all. It contains several events that can be joined. Most events are free of charge.



During the Summer you can stay connected to the SEI Austin Chapter via our website, where you'll find the latest and greatest on upcoming events. We always welcome your thoughts on future technical presentations and other special events. If there is something you would like to do, then we would like to hear about it. Please drop us a line at sei@austinasce.org.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 5/13 | EWRI Cont. Education Workshop |
| 5/17 | ASCE Austin Branch May Meeting |
| 5/21 | Sammy's House: YMF Service Event |
| 5/24 | SEI Virtual Meeting |

ASCE AUSTIN LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

If you're looking for ways to get more involved with your local ASCE branch, you're in luck! We're actively recruiting for multiple open positions for ASCE Austin, EWRI, SEI, and more. If you are interested in any of our committees, please contact our and our Nominations Committee Chair

2020-2021 ASCE AUSTIN OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PRESIDENT

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OPEN

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Polar Forensics, Inc.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

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Garver
Michael Chavez, P.E.
Garver
publicrelations@austinasce.org

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tony Buonodono, P.E.
MWM Design Group

HONORS COMMITTEE

David Matocha
Forterra Pipe & Precast

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Steve Zobal, P.E.
MWM DesignGroup
Jane Ellen Carter, E.I.T.
Aguirre & Fields

HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Asmita Raut, E.I.T.
Building Diagnostics, Inc.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Andrea Bryant, P.E.
Freese & Nichols
governmentrelations@austinasce.org

STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE

Tony Buonodono, P.E.
MWM Design Group

UT AUSTIN MENTORING COMMITTEE

Robert Ramon, P.E.
(Practitioner Advisor)
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.

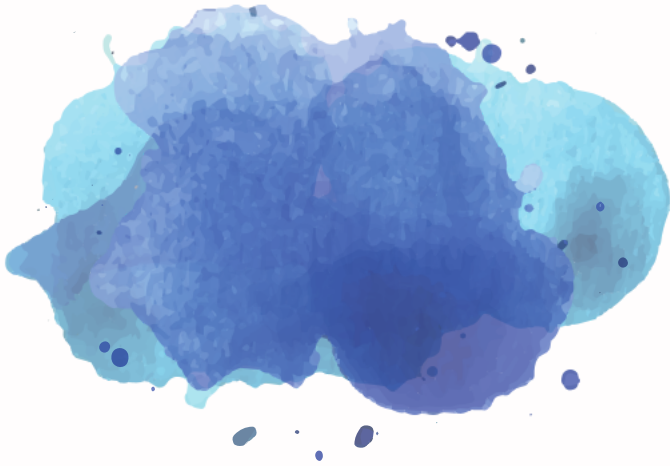
STUDENT CHAPTER CONTACT COMMITTEE

OPEN

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPONSOR THE ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH FOR 2022!!

BY AMOS EMERSON, P.E.



We ask that all members consider supporting your local ASCE branch during these uncertain and difficult times. Almost all the functions of the organization are dependent upon these sponsorships and we cannot do all the great things that we do, without YOUR SUPPORT!

For more information about the benefits of sponsorship visit www.austinasce.org/sponsors.

If you have any questions or for more information please email sponsorship@austinasce.org.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\$300 | ANNUAL SPONSORS

- Valid for 1 Year after date of purchase.
- Company logo is displayed on newsletters, mailers, and at ASCE branch meetings.
- Free postings on the ASCE job board.

\$350 | MONTHLY BRANCH MEETING SPONSORS

- Company highlight in event promotion emails.
- Special recognition at branch meeting event.
- Opportunity to give a brief introduction of your Company during the event.

\$300 | CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENT (2021)

- Company highlight in event promotion emails.
- Several additional levels of sponsorship available.

\$850 | SPECIAL BUNDLE RATE

- Save \$100 when you pledge to support all three!
- Includes Annual Sponsorship
- Includes one credit for monthly branch meeting sponsorship.
- Includes sponsorship at Continuing Education event.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



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