



TEXAS SECTION
Austin Branch

ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

March 2022

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY SAM SHORTER P.E.



We are excited to announce that we will have our FIRST hybrid Branch Meeting on March 22nd, 2022 at the Balcones Country Club in north Austin! I hope you can join us and please bear with us as we get back in the swing of in person events. Please register early and pay online if possible so we can fully enjoy our first time together in over two years.

The end of February was an exciting time for the Austin Branch as the TSPE Engineers Banquet held on February 23rd with a full house in attendance. Our own Tyler Dube, P.E. was recognized for his continued dedication to ASCE and was presented with the Austin Branch 2022 Garabed A. Harutunian Civil Engineer of the Year Award. Tyler represented our group well and a panel discussion was held for "Women in Engineering: Past, Present, & Future". Former Branch

President Kacey Paul, P.E. participated in an engaging conversation with other industry leaders.

The panel discussion reminded me of two things, March is Women's History Month and the old saying "Women make the world go 'round". This month I encourage you to find ways to support females in your community and engineering practice. One terrific way is to participate with Girlstart, a nonprofit group that is focused on "Empowering Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math". The Austin Branch will have more news soon about participation and engagement with Girlstart, and we are pleased to announce that our K-12 Student Outreach Committee is now chaired by the capable Julian Valencia, P.E.

Spring of 2022 will be very active with a number of events planned by the Austin Branch along with our Structural Engineering Institute, Environmental Water Resources Institute, and Younger Members Forum. In April, the Branch will be offering educational and community service opportunities via our Continuing Education Conference and volunteer day at the Capital Area Food Bank. Please check out the website and newsletter for further details.

It is easier than ever to get engaged and to help our community, and if you are looking for volunteer or committee opportunities, you can connect with me or any other Board member. We appreciate your feedback and please do not hesitate to reach out to me at (512) 861-5300 or president@austinasce.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3/22	ASCE Austin Branch March Meeting
4/20	Austin Branch Continuing Ed
4/29	YMF Golf Tournament
4/30	Community Service: Central Texas Food Bank

MARCH BRANCH MEETING

BY TYLER DUBE, P.E.

REGISTRATION REGISTER BY 3/21 AT 12PM

▶ DATE | 3/22/2021, 11:30am - 1:00pm

▶ LOCATION | Balcones Country Club

▶ Zoom Virtual Meeting

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

[Click here for Virtual](#)

MEETING TOPIC

Barbours Cut Terminal - Container Port Wharf Expansion Design

Please join us for our March branch meeting. We will receive a presentation on Barbours Cut Terminal - Container Port Wharf Expansion Design from Associate Principal Jeremiah Fasl, PhD, PE of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE)

MEET THE SPEAKERS

Jeremiah Fasl, PhD, PE is an Associate Principal in the Austin office of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE). He is chair of ACI Committee 357, Offshore and Marine Structure, and a voting member of ACI Committee 348, Structural Reliability and Safety, and Subcommittees B and C of ACI 562, Evaluation, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Concrete Buildings. His interests include structural reliability, structural stability, civil infrastructure, structural health monitoring, and rehabilitation. He is a licensed Structural Engineer in Arizona and licensed Professional Engineer in Texas.



Jeremiah Fasl, PhD, PE

THANK YOU TO THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR!

Jacobs

With \$14 billion in revenue and a talent force of more than 55,000, Jacobs provides a full spectrum of professional services including consulting, technical, scientific and project delivery for the government and private sector around the world.

Consistently ranked by ENR in the top two firms for Bridges, Highways, Airports, Mass Transit, Marine and Ports Facilities, Jacobs is a leader in the Civil Engineering industry.

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It's time to reimagine an infrastructure future that delivers more for society, not only in terms of fiscal responsibility, but also in measures of community wellbeing, public safety, business productivity and quality of life—the ultimate outcomes that infrastructure programs are meant to serve. To bring critical infrastructure programs to fruition, we work with communities to accelerate return-oriented infrastructure developments that make a clear case for sustainable outcomes.

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At Jacobs we are Challenging Today and Reinventing Tomorrow.

MARCH MEETING LOCATION

BY PAUL HAHN, P.E.

NEW LOCATION

Mark your calendars everyone, we're getting together in-person again! On March 22 we will be getting together at a new location:

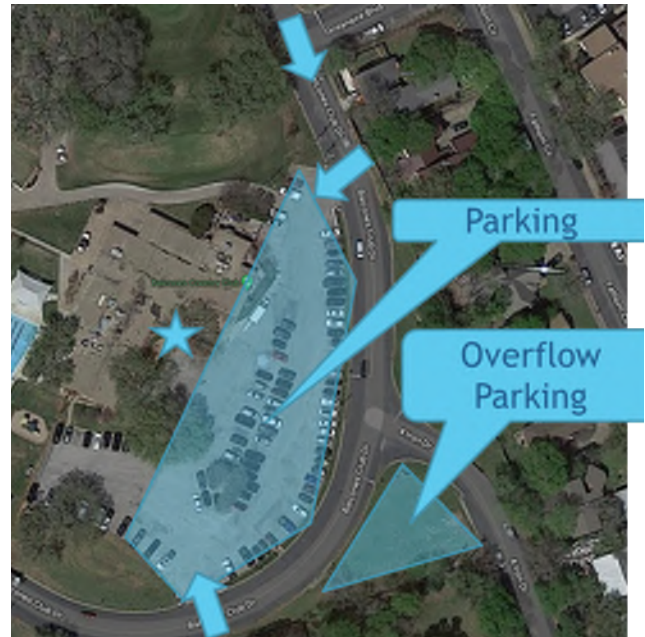
Balcones Country Club at 8600 Balcones Club Dr, Austin, TX 78750.

We haven't committed long-term to this location, so please give us your feedback after the meeting. Tell us about food, location, parking, venue, or any other thoughts you have. We're really excited to see you all again!



Balcones Country Club

**8600 Balcones Club
Dr, Austin, TX 78750.**



AUSTIN BRANCH YOUTUBE CHANNEL

BY ANTHONY GAVLIK, P.E.

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:

[November 2020](#)

"EWB Austin in Tanzania" by Lizzie Wilson, EIT and Mazen Zee Alameddine

[December 2020](#)

"Professional Practice Updates and Ethics" by Rick Valdes, PE

[January 2021](#)

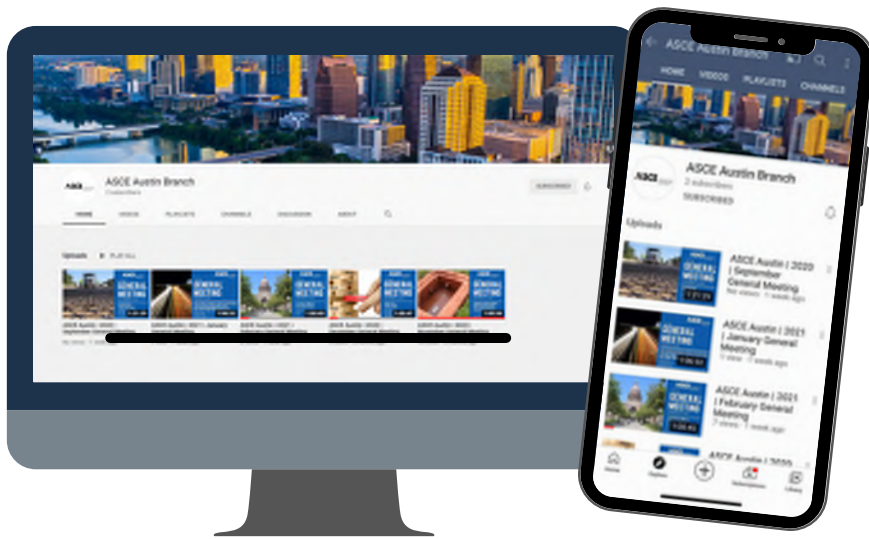
"Use of Shared Automated Vehicles for First-Mile Last-Mile Service: Micro-simulation of Rail-transit Connections in Austin, Texas" by Yantao Huang

[February 2021](#)

"TFC Capitol Complex – Reflecting on Phase I" by Paul Bielamowicz, PE

[May 2021](#)

"2021 Texas Section Government Affairs Update" by Austin Messerli, PE



COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

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

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT: CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD BANK



Thank you all for making our January service event with Community First! Village a great success!

Coming up, we'll be volunteering with the Central Texas Food Bank on April 30th. We will be serving at the Central Texas Food Bank Warehouse. Our group will primarily be inspecting, sorting, cleaning, boxing, and preparing food donations for distribution.

Sign-up at the link: [Central Texas Food Bank](#)

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!

Upcoming Service Event!

ASCE YMF is hosting a cleanup for our adopted portion of Shoal Creek through the Keep Austin Beautiful Adopt-A-Creek program! We will meet at Pease District Park at 10:00 am on March 12, 2022. This event will last around 1.5 hours. Wear something comfortable that you don't mind getting dirty; YMF will provide supplies



Austin ASCE YMF Golf Tournament:

Our annual golf tournament will be held on April 29th at Avery Ranch Golf Course with a 1:30 pm shotgun start. Check out the tournament website for more details. www.asce-austingolf.com

Texas Section Younger Members Group Camping Trip:



April 29th – May 1st at McKinney Falls State Park for \$40 per person

<https://www.texasce.org/event/2022-camping/>

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!

ASCE YMF Scholarship:

We are happy to announce that we are offering a scholarship for high school students entering a STEM field for the third year in a row! Please encourage anyone you may know to apply!



[@ymfaustin](https://www.instagram.com/@ymfaustin)



[ASCE YMF ATX](https://www.facebook.com/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 CLINT SMITH, E.I.T. C.F.M.

ASCE YMF Joint Happy Hour

Thank you all to coming to Abel's on the Lake on February 21st and a big thank you to all of our sponsors for the event!



EWRI UPDATE

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

EWRI
ASCE
Austin Chapter

17th ANNUAL EWRI
CONTINUING
EDUCATION WORKSHOP

**Financing for a
Sustainable Future:
Project Planning,
Funding, and
Implementation**

May 13, 2022

Pickle Center
10100 Burnet Rd Building 137, Austin, TX 78758

continuing education conference

ASCE
TEXAS SECTION
Austin Branch

Wednesday
April 20, 8am-5pm

COMMONS CONFERENCE CENTER
JJ PICKLE RESEARCH CAMPUS
LIL TEX AUDITORIUM

CIVIL
ENGINEERING
RELOADED

TOPICS & SPEAKERS

MOBILITY35 PROGRAM

- Susan Fraser, P.E., CFM, Mobility35 Program Manager

CYBER SECURITY IN CIVIL ENGINEERING (SB 475)

- Andres (Andy) Ruz, Chief Information Security Officer

ETHICS IN ENGINEERING

- TBD

PLUS MANY MORE!

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACKS, AND DRINKS
WILL BE SERVED THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

registration: \$TBD/person \$TBD/students & gov. employees



Still thawing out after the big freeze a few days ago? Why not grow in your career while you warm up? Below you'll find information on what SEI Austin is doing to advance the Structural Engineering profession.

Professional Meeting:

SEI offers Professional Meetings every other month, September through May. These meetings feature a presentation on current projects, research, or developments in the Structural Engineering profession. On March 22nd we will have a joint meeting with the ASCE Austin Chapter at the Balcones Country Club. We've provided the speaker, Dr. Jeremiah Fasl, PhD, Associate Principal with WJE. Dr. Fasl is the chair of ACI Committee 257, offshore and Marine Structures and will present the design of the Container Port Wharf Expansion at the Barbours Cut Terminal in the Port of Houston. For more information or to register, go to www.austinasce.org

Structural Engineering Talks (SET) 2021/2022:

We continue to prepare for SET 2022 tentatively scheduled for this Spring. However, we remain sensitive to the realities of the COVID pandemic and will adjust accordingly. Until then you'll find links to past SET presentations as well as updates at <https://www.austinasce.org/sei/set>.



UT-Austin Ferguson Structural Engineering Lab Coordinator Opportunity:

The University of Texas at Austin's Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory (FSEL) at the UT Pickle Research Center has posted an opening for a Lab Coordinator. This is an exciting hands-on opportunity to stay engaged with the cutting-edge research going on at FSEL. Interested parties can find the advertisement for the position at the following link: [Lab Coordinator Position](#)

SEI Electrical Transmission and Substation Structures Congress Scholarships

Student scholarships are available for the conference which is scheduled for Oct 2-6, 2022 in Orlando. Applications are available until April 25, 2022 at: <https://www.etsconference.org/program/student-scholarship>

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. Structures Congress 2022

To be held in person in Atlanta April 20-23, 2022. Registration and additional info will be available mid-September here: [Learn More](#) Scholarships are available through the SEI Future Fund for students or young engineers. To apply or get more information go here: [Apply Today](#)

4. 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.

5. 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.



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.

BY ANDREA BRYANT, P.E.

Last month the US Department of Transportation announced it was adding \$1.5 billion in available grant funding for fiscal year 2022 to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program as part of the recently signed Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

RAISE grants, previously referred to as Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants, have been a popular tool to help support a wide variety of state and local projects throughout the country. Projects are evaluated on criteria of safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunity, state of good repair, partnership and innovation, mobility, and community connectivity.



Just last year, TxDOT was awarded \$12M for the Loop, a 50-mile urban pedestrian and bicycle trail in Dallas. Closer to home, Cap Metro was awarded \$11.3M for commuter and freight rail enhancements in 2013, and TxDOT was awarded \$20.8M for rural transit improvements in 2015, \$9.8M of which was used to construct a Capital Area Rural Transportation System (CARTS) facility southeast of Austin.

If you or someone you know would be interested in being part of the Government Affairs Committee don't hesitate to reach out the GovernmentRelations@austinasce.org



2022 SPRING SCHOLARSHIP

BY ROBIN ITO AND REID JOHNSON

The scholarship committee is looking for volunteers to help evaluate scholarship applications. This will be done over lunch one day in April TBD. Please email Scholarships@austinasce.com or rito@ssfm.com to sign up.



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

Sam Shorter, P.E.
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PRESIDENT-ELECT

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VICE PRESIDENT - PROGRAMS

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PAST PRESIDENT

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EWEEK/STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

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Miller Gray
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Marita Moya, P.E. C.F.M.
Web Master
webmaster@austinasce.org

Anthony Gavlik P.E.
Social Media Chair
HNTB

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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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

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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.

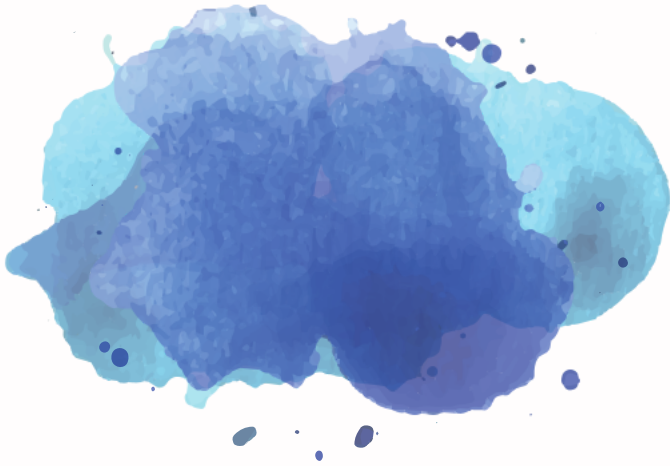
STUDENT CHAPTER CONTACT COMMITTEE

OPEN

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SPONSOR THE ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH FOR 2021!

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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