



TEXAS SECTION  
Austin Branch

# ASCE AUSTIN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

*October 2021*

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY SAM SHORTER P.E.



We are excited to welcome everyone back for a new year with ASCE! My name is Samuel Shorter and I am honored to serve as your ASCE Austin Branch President for 2021-2022.

The first order of business is to sincerely thank our outgoing President, Board Members, Committee Chairs, and volunteers. Our group leadership continued to provide engaging programs and meaningful connections all while responding to challenging times within our community. The sound planning by our ASCE predecessors prepared us for change and allowed us to thrive during a period of uncertainty.

COVID Update. Our group will continue to follow guidance by the ASCE Texas Section and local health officials by holding virtual branch meetings through the end of year. We are preparing for the return of in-person events and personally I can't wait to be there with y'all.

We also want to recognize every single member of the Austin Branch for making this great organization possible and who continue to dedicate their time to helping society via this wonderful profession. In addition to your time, the Branch collectively donated over \$10,000 to the Central Texas Food Bank and other deserving groups this past year. We hope this next year allows us to donate our most precious gift, time, in addition to the financial support we are blessed to give others.

If you are interested in helping the ASCE Austin Branch this year, you can offer financial support by becoming a Branch sponsor or volunteering your time as a Committee member. Currently, we have availability for the E-Week/Student Outreach Committee (two spots available), Web Page Committee (one spot available), and UT Student Chapter Contact Committee (one spot available). If you would like more information on sponsorship or volunteering, please reach out to me or any other Board/Committee member and they will be glad to help.

Lastly, be on the lookout this fall for Branch community service events along with opportunities to connect in person at various YMF, EWRI, or SEI events. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Samuel Shorter, P.E.

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## Upcoming Events

10/7	Texas COPRI Annual Fall Conference
10/12	Texas Section Webinar
10/19	ASCE Austin Branch May Meeting
10/26	SEI Houston Technical Session
10/28	YMF Post PE Social

# OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING

BY TYLER DUBE, P.E.

## REGISTRATION REGISTER BY 10/19 AT 12PM

- ▶ DATE | 10/19/2021, 11:30am - 1:00pm
- ▶ LOCATION | Zoom Virtual Meeting
- ▶ LINK | [Click here to register](#)

## MEETING TOPIC

### UT AUSTIN CAPITAL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Please join us for our October Virtual Branch Meeting. We will receive a presentation about UT Austin construction updates from Director Jim Shackelford and Associate Director Michael Uyeda, who work at UT Austin Capital Planning.

## MEET THE SPEAKERS

James is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture with over 41 years of professional experience. From 1980 to 2004 Jim was engaged in private practice in Austin as either a Project Architect, Construction Administrator, Project Manager or Principal. In 2017, Jim was appointed as the Director of the Capital Planning and Construction office at the University of Texas at Austin, overseeing a portfolio of 13 active projects totaling over \$800M. He continues in that role today.

During Jim's tenure with the University of Texas, he has supervised the design and construction of over 7.5 million Gross Square Feet of new and renovated space, with a total value in excess of \$3.5 billion.



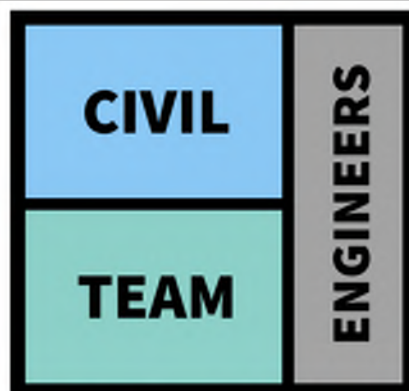
James Shackelford, AIA

Michael is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, School of Architecture and the Associate Director for the Offices of Capital Planning and Constructions. He has over 30 years' experience as an architect and project manager in the private and public sector working on various projects from University research facilities to semiconductor manufacturing facilities. He also served as a Senior Project Manager with UT System Office of Facilities Planning and Construction



Michael Uyeda, RA, LEED AP

## THANK YOU TO THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR!



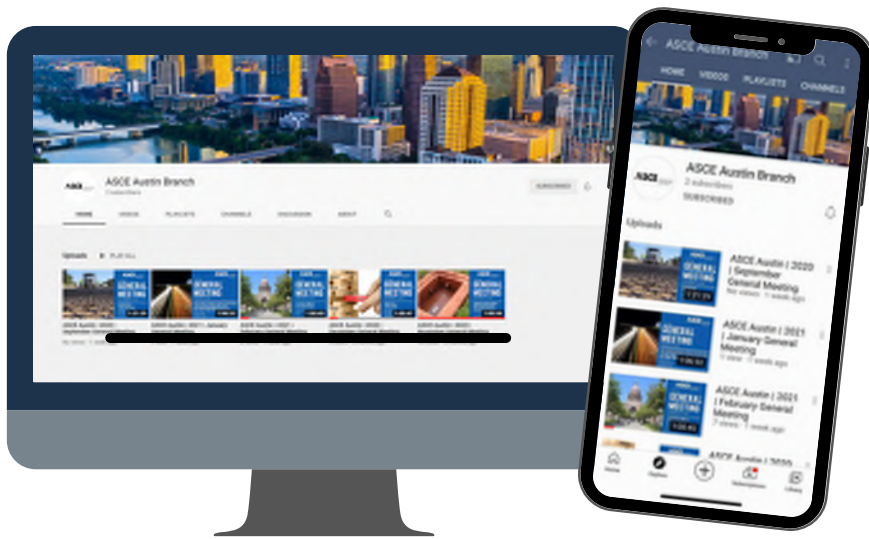
[www.CivilTeamEngineers.com](http://www.CivilTeamEngineers.com)

# 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:

<a href="#">November 2020</a>	"EWB Austin in Tanzania" by Lizzie Wilson, EIT and Mazen Zee Alameddine
<a href="#">December 2020</a>	"Professional Practice Updates and Ethics" by Rick Valdes, PE
<a href="#">January 2021</a>	"Use of Shared Automated Vehicles for First-Mile Last-Mile Service: Micro-simulation of Rail-transit Connections in Austin, Texas" by Yantao Huang
<a href="#">February 2021</a>	"TFC Capitol Complex – Reflecting on Phase I" by Paul Bielamowicz, PE
<a href="#">May 2021</a>	"2021 Texas Section Government Affairs Update" by Austin Messerli, PE



## EWRI UPDATE

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

EWRI Austin transitioned to its 2021-2022 board members who are as follows:

- Sarah Davis – President
- Kayla Sweeden – President Elect
- Jenna Rao – Treasurer
- Kelley Rich – Treasurer Elect

Stay tuned for an announcement on our new committee chairs.



# ASCE TEXAS SECTION UPDATE

BY PATRICK M. BEECHER, P.E., ASCE TEXAS SECTION PRESIDENT

## RAISE YOUR HAND FOR EXCITING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do you know someone who would inspire greatness in our Texas Section membership? Are you interested in taking on a state-level leadership role in the coming years? Nominations for 2022-2023 Texas Section Officers are now open and will be coordinated through each Branch. The Section is currently accepting nominations for the following positions, through October 31, 2021:

1. President Elect
2. Vice President for Technical Affairs Elect
3. Vice President for Educational Affairs Elect
4. Vice President for Professional Affairs Elect
5. First Year Director at Large (two positions, must be under 35 years old)
6. Treasurer

You can visit our website to view descriptions of the positions listed above (scroll to the bottom of that page).

If you are interested in one of the positions listed above or know someone who would be a good fit, please contact Sam Shorter at [president@austinasce.org](mailto:president@austinasce.org) for assistance in submitting a nomination.

There are plenty of other volunteer opportunities at the state and local level, too! To explore other opportunities within the Texas Section, visit [www.texasce.org/volunteer](http://www.texasce.org/volunteer) or contact Section Director <Section Director Name> at <Contact info> to learn about local opportunities. All members, including STUDENT MEMBERS, are encouraged to raise their hand to volunteer today — both long- and short-term commitment options available!



## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR ASCE TEXAS SECTION AWARDS

The ASCE Texas Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award is given on an annual basis to a completed project, built and/or designed in Texas, that demonstrates the greatest contribution to civil engineering progress and to society. The Award is presented at CECON each September. Please click [here](#) for more details on the nomination process.



Do you know someone who is deserving of being recognized as a Distinguished Member of ASCE? The Texas Section is currently soliciting ideas for nominations. Once received, all nominations will be reviewed, and the honoree will be notified if the Past Presidents Council decides to move forward with a formal nomination to ASCE. Click [here](#) to view ASCE's criteria and guidelines regarding Distinguished Member nominations.

Please send all Texas OCEA Award nominations and Distinguished Member considerations to Past Presidents Council Chair Art Clendenin PE by October 31, 2021.

## SAVE THE DATE AND UPCOMING WEBINARS

- October 7, 2021 – Texas COPRI Annual Fall Conference
- October 26, 2021 – SEI Houston Technical Session: Aerodynamics of Bridge Rehabilitation, Modifications and Retrofits
- March/April 2022 – ASCE Region 6 Student Symposium (Hosted by the University of Houston's ASCE Student Chapter)
- Late Spring 2022 – ASCE Texas Younger Member Camping Trip (Pedernales Falls State Park)

We invite you to join us from your home or office for the following webinar sessions:

- October 12 – Bioengineered Living Shoreline Erosion Control Technology by Sam Cocke, Sales Manager with Double Oak Erosion
- November 9 – Introduction to Airport Design by Jason Frank PE, Senior Project Manager and South/Southeast Aviation Lead with Garver, Member of ASCE 2021 Texas Infrastructure Report Card Committee

# Younger Member Forum Update

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

Hope everyone has had a great start to their new fiscal year/semester! We are excited to see everyone at our upcoming events!

## Post PE Test Social

We have an upcoming event (post-PE) at CiderCade on Thursday, October 28th from 6pm -8pm! It is located at 600 E Riverside Dr, Austin, TX 78704. It is a \$10 admission fee to the venue. We hope to see you there!

Sign up on our Eventbrite and fill out the Covid-19 waiver!

Eventbrite Event

COVID- 19 waiver



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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



[ASCE YMF ATX](https://www.facebook.com/ASCE YMF ATX)



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

If you are interested in learning more about ASCE YMF ATX, please contact our president David Contreras at [dcontreras@gad.com](mailto:dcontreras@gad.com)

## Honors Committee Update

Know a wonderful engineer that serves the Austin Branch and the civil engineering profession? Show them your appreciation by nominating them for the Austin Branch Engineer of the Year Award. The past winners of this award are literally a “Who’s Who” of the Austin civil engineering community. The only requirement is the nominee must be a member of the Austin Branch. Surely you know someone deserving to be considered for this award.

Please reach out to me at [david.matocha@forterrabp.com](mailto:david.matocha@forterrabp.com) for a nomination form or if you have any questions. I am happy to help you with your nomination.



Please see the opportunities and events listed below we offer as part of the SEI Austin Chapters effort to advance and serve the Structural Engineering profession.

## 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 at: <https://www.etsconference.org/program/student-scholarship>

## 2022 SEI Structures Congress

Students and young professionals can also apply by December 5 for scholarships to Structures Congress April 20-23 in Atlanta via <https://www.structurescongress.org/program/scholarships>

## Professional Meeting:

SEI offers Professional Meetings every other month, September through May, which feature a presentation on some current projects, research, or developments in the Structural Engineering profession. We plan to continue taking advantage of our current virtual format by bringing you exceptional technical guests from around the country. However, periodically we will replace a Professional Meeting with a technical tour.

Watch for information on our November offering in the SEI e-blasts that Austin Chapter President Eric Sammarco sends. They can also be found at: <https://www.austinasce.org/>.

## Structural Engineering Talks (SET) 2021/2022:

Planning continues for SET. As Texas continues to open up and get back to in-person activities, we are watching what the experts are saying and our membership's comfort level for the right time to hold SET in person. Currently we are considering holding it in Spring 2022. Until then you'll 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. 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. Free Collection of Articles

In response to the Champlain Towers South collapse in Surfside, Florida, The ASCE Library has assembled papers highlighting the importance of condition assessment of buildings that are available for free through September 16th here: [Available for free](#)

### 6. 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.



# 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.  
Miller Gray  
[president@austinasce.org](mailto:president@austinasce.org)

### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Paul Hahn, P.E.  
Aguirre & Fields  
[presidentelect@austinasce.org](mailto:presidentelect@austinasce.org)

### **VICE PRESIDENT - PROGRAMS**

Tyler Dube, P.E.  
Pape-Dawson Engineers  
[vicepresident@austinasce.org](mailto:vicepresident@austinasce.org)

### **SECRETARY**

Leanne Cantalupo, E.I.T.  
Garver  
[secretary@austinasce.org](mailto:secretary@austinasce.org)

### **TREASURER**

Genest Landry, P.E.  
City of Austin  
[treasurer@austinasce.org](mailto:treasurer@austinasce.org)

### **TREASURER-ELECT**

Augustine Verrengia, P.E.  
WGI  
[treasurerelect@austinasce.org](mailto:treasurerelect@austinasce.org)

### **COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

Austin Messerli, P.E.  
K Friese + Associates  
[communications@austinasce.org](mailto:communications@austinasce.org)

### **SECTION DIRECTOR**

Kat Lauer, E.I.T.  
Garza EMC  
[texassection@austinasce.org](mailto:texassection@austinasce.org)

### **YOUNGER MEMBER DIRECTOR**

Kaylyn Hudson, E.I.T.  
Freese & Nichols  
[yymfdirector@austinasce.org](mailto:yymfdirector@austinasce.org)

### **PAST PRESIDENT**

Bradley East, P.E.  
Polar Forensics, Inc.  
[pastpresident@austinasce.org](mailto:pastpresident@austinasce.org)

### **EWEEK/STUDENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

OPEN

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Robyn Ito  
SSFM  
Reid Johnson  
Garver  
[scholarships@austinasce.org](mailto:scholarships@austinasce.org)

### **CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Amos Emerson  
Millennium Engineers Group  
[sponsorship@austinasce.org](mailto:sponsorship@austinasce.org)

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Griselda Quintero  
Miller Gray  
[membership@austinasce.org](mailto:membership@austinasce.org)

### **WEB PAGE & SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE**

Lily Aung, P.E.  
Web Master  
Jacobs Engineering Group  
[webmaster@austinasce.org](mailto:webmaster@austinasce.org)  
Anthony Gavlik P.E.  
Social Media Chair  
HNTB

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Bradley East, P.E.  
Polar Forensics, Inc.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE**

Laura Friello P.E.  
Garver  
Michael Chavez, P.E.  
Garver  
[publicrelations@austinasce.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.

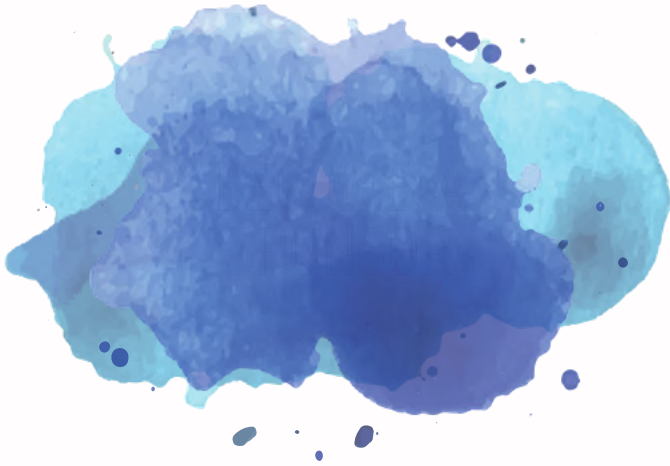
### **STUDENT CHAPTER CONTACT COMMITTEE**

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](http://www.austinasce.org/sponsors).

If you have any questions or for more information please email [sponsorship@austinasce.org](mailto: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.

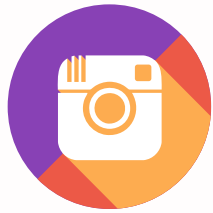
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