2018 ASCE Field Day

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Members are encouraged to submit newsworthy announcements and information for the Branch Newsletter. Submission deadline is the first of the month. Please e-mail Erik M. Alcantara, E.I. at newsletter@miamidade-asce.org

http://www.miamidade-asce.org

2018 ASCE Field Day
6TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018
8:30 am – 1:00 pm
Location: ZOO MIAMI
12400 SW 152nd St, Miami, FL 33177 - Special Events Pavilion
TICKET PRICES

INDIVIDUAL $40
TEAM OF FOUR $140
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE $20
CHILDREN (3-12) $20
TEAM OF FOUR CHILDREN $70
CHILDREN UNDER 3 FREE

INCLUDES:
FIELD DAY EVENTS
ZOO MIAMI ADMISSION
TASTY LUNCH
BEVERAGES

SPONSORSHIP CATEGORIES

EVENT SPONSOR
PUBLICATION OF SPONSORSHIP | ADMISSION OF 2 TEAMS OF 4 | LOGO ON EVENT PROMO MATERIAL AND WEB $1,000

COMPETITION SPONSOR
RECOGNIZED AS COMPETITION SPONSOR | ADMISSION OF 1 TEAM OF 4 | LOGO ON EVENT PROMO MATERIAL $500

BEVERAGE SPONSOR
LOGO ON SIGN BY BEVERAGES | ADMISSION OF 1 TEAM OF 4 | LOGO ON EVENT PROMO MATERIAL AND WEB $500

RAFFLE SPONSOR
FIRM LOGO DISPLAYED AT RAFFLE STATION $200

Purchase tickets at:
2018MDASCEFIELDDAY.EVENTBRITE.COM
For additional information & sponsorship please contact:
FieldDay@miamidade-asce.org or visit miamidade-asce.org

Networking
Raffles
Prizes
All Ages
Outdoor
Fun at the
Miami Zoo!

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President’s Message

Since our last newsletter the branch has been very active in the community, primarily with Outreach Events with local elementary and middle schools. To name a few, we met with the Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Luis Collazo and FES Past-President John Hall at HML to become a part of their new robotics STEM Club, we assisted Somerset Academy with their second Invention Convention and we finalized our pilot program Project Build. Within this newsletter you will find more in-depth articles.

We are happy to move past this year’s memorable Hurricane Season and move into the Holidays. All of us at ASCE Miami-Dade want to wish everyone and their loved ones a belated Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! We kicked off the holiday season with local members from the Florida Engineering Society (FES) in an Annual Holiday Dinner. Many ASCE and FES members donated toys for Toys-For-Tots and enjoyed a night of cocktails, dinner and networking.

With the end of the year a hop skip and beat away, we begin planning our second largest event of the year! The Annual Fundraiser Field Day will be held on April 21st, 2017 at Zoo Miami. More details are included on the flyer in the newsletter. Email us at fieldday@miamidade-asce.org for more details or to become a sponsor!

Happy Holidays,

Yulet Miguel, P.E., M. ASCE
President, ASCE Miami-Dade Branch
president@miamidade-Asce.org
ASCE and FES Members enjoying the Annual Holiday Party at Dolores But You Can Call Me Lolita in Downtown Miami on December 8th

President Yulet Miguel along with FES Past-President John Hall and Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Luiz Collazo, at Hialeah Miami Lakes Robotics class

Past President Maria Porrata and President Yulet Miguel with Melody Gonzalez, EWB FIU Chapter President, celebrating our sponsorship for their new fundraiser!
The Resilient Utility Coalition invites you to our 2018 Summit:

**Operationalizing Resilience**

The 2-Day program will focus on the operationalization of Resilience within water, sewer and storm utilities. The tracks are build on each other progressively through a series of presentations geared toward identifying, planning, implementing, and operationalizing Resilience.

Key sessions include:

- Resilience Planning
- Big Data & Smart Utility Concepts
- Operational Disaster Preparedness
- Financial Planning
- Information Technology & Cyber Security

**Resilient Utility Coalition**

**2018 Summit**

Date: January 25-26, 2018  
Location: Miami Airport Marriott  
1201 NW Lejeune Road  
Miami, FL 33126

Register Here!

For a copy of the agenda click the link below.  
See the Summit Agenda!

“Improving the security and resilience of our nation’s drinking water and wastewater infrastructure is vital to ensure the provision of clean and safe water to all in the United States”

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Future City 2018

Future City is a project-based learning program where students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future.

What is Future City?

Future City Competition is a national competition that focuses on improving student's math, engineering, and science skills. Students imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future that showcase their solution to a citywide sustainability issue. The 2017-2018 theme is The Age-Friendly City. Teams will identify an age-related challenge that exists in today's urban environments and engineer two innovative solutions that allow their future city's senior citizens to be as active and independent as they want to be. Future City is one of the nation's leading engineering education programs and has received national recognition and acclaim for its role in encouraging middle schoolers to develop their interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Schedule for Future City 2018 Competition

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<tr>
<th>Deliverable</th>
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<tr>
<td>Virtual City</td>
<td>Tuesday 12/12/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Essay</td>
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<td>Project Plan</td>
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<td>City Model</td>
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<td>City Model (Finals)</td>
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<td>City Presentation (Finals)</td>
<td>Saturday 01/20/2018</td>
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Further Info: https://futurecity.org/
https://www.facebook.com/FutureCityCompetition
http://aln.fiu.edu/futurecity/
https://twitter.com/discovereorg
https://www.youtube.com/user/EWEEKFUTURECITY

Location: “The Panther Pit” on the 2nd floor FIU Engineering Center, 10555 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL-33174

Date: 20th January 2018

Entry Details: https://futurecity.org/register

Contact Details: Dr. Osama A. Mohammed
23rd Annual SECME Olympiad & Festival

Please join us in helping develop these extraordinary students by judging their talents in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and/or Mathematics.

Register:
http://science.dadeschools.net/SECMEjudgingForm.asp

February 10, 2018
Miami-Dade College
North Campus
11380 NW 27th Ave.
Miami, FL 331677

http://www.mdc.edu/north/images/north-map.jpg
Save the Date

2018 ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL VISIT
Friday April 6, 2018, 6-9pm

ASCE
Florida Region
Miami Beach

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
KRISTINA SWALLOW, PE, ENV SP, F. ASCE
ASCE PRESIDENT

“I became a civil engineer to make a difference in my community. As president, I hope to continue to raise the profile of our nation’s engineers as leaders influencing decisions that are shaping our communities. Infrastructure is being talked about on the national stage, so this is a crucial time for us to share our solutions to modernize our infrastructure systems in a sustainable matter that is built for the future” - Kristina L. Swallow, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE – ASCE President
ASCE convention was held in New Orleans Marriott Hotel with over 650 attending. The timing was right when hurricane Nate was hitting the city therefore the organization committee had to kick off the convention with one day delay. The event was mainly affected by two themes: natural disasters, and new president of ASCE.

As ASCE Miami-Dade liaison I spent almost entire time of the conference in sessions, panels, showcases and socials trying to both learn and also create connections to be able to use in favor of the branch goals. As a result, couple of attendees will be in Miami throughout 2018 to make professional presentations, starting February 21st.

As another achievement, new ASCE President Kristina Swallow will visit Miami in April 2018 and will meet our member body and officers. I also got appointed as a member of Technical Program Subcommittee for Annual Convention Advisory Council. These connections will be beneficial to Miami as the city will host convention 2019.
I also met the entire ASCE board and discussed ASCE Miami activities with them. I got appointed as corresponding member of Committee on Leadership and Management during the convention and had couple of meetings with ASCE leadership with regards to monetizing online opportunities as a member of Task Committee on New Revenue.

To summarize, this trip was a great opportunity for me to get prepared to bring more value to Miami-Dade Branch through next steps. My main achievement was being a part of convention organization council which hopefully makes our branch more resourceful before ASCE Convention 2019 in Miami.
Florida Section Board Meeting

On October 20th and 21st, Biketoberfest weekend, Past Presidents Christopher Zavatsky, Barton Fye and Patrick Kaimrajh along with President Yulet Miguel drove up to Daytona Beach to attend the quarterly Florida Section Board Meeting at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach. On Friday night, they attended a leisurely dinner at local restaurant, Sloppy Joe’s with Florida Section President, board members, and local university chapter members. Saturday morning they attended the board meeting which included discussions of Florida wide events as well as individual branch events. Chen Moore Vice President was recognized again as the Section’s first Region 5 Engineer of the Year.
Younger Members enjoyed a great social event on Thursday, November 9th, 2017 at Veza Sur. Special thanks to our event sponsors: CES Consultants and ADS Pipe.
On Saturday, December 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2017, the Bob Graham Education Center Science Department held a VEX IQ STEM Research Project competition. This year the STEM Research Project theme focused on Robotics Engineering and Ethics. LaKeeVia Jackson, outreach member, participated as 1 of 3 judges for this competition. Participants in this robotics competition were in middle school ranging from 6\textsuperscript{th} grade to 8\textsuperscript{th} grade. Teams developed an area of study for solving an engineering problem in robotics that interests them while keeping in mind the three Laws of Robotics. There projects also emphasized on the codes of professional ethics found in the practice of science and engineering. Students wrote a report using the engineering process, created a sample deliverable, and presented on their idea for no more than 8 minutes including Q & A from the judges.

Students were judged based on the following award criteria:
- Identifying a challenge topic of interest that relates to the STEM theme for the season
- Completing research and collecting evidence using reliable sources
- Demonstrating a well-organized and documented process to study and explain research findings
- Describing how the research findings were applied to develop and test the solution
- Sharing the solution in an effective and creative presentation
- Demonstrating an understanding of the research process
- Demonstrating teamwork and effective communication skills

The team that was selected as the winning team for this competition presented glasses that would help people with Alzheimer or Dementia recognize familiar faces.
On December 8th, ASCE and FES hosted the Annual Holiday Dinner at Dolores But You Can Call Me Lolita in Mary Brickell Village, Downtown Miami. Members from both organizations attended and participated in an evening of networking and cocktails. There was also a collection for Toys-For-Tots, where the primary goal is to deliver a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters, by means of a new toy at Christmas; this will help them in become responsible, productive, and patriotic citizens. Below are a few of the many photos and selfies that were taken on the very eventful night!
In this special edition of Membership Spotlight we want to highlight two very special members, Patrick Kaimrajh and Yulet Miguel. They have volunteered numerous hours to the American Society of Civil Engineers while juggling a successful career and personal life. We are proud to highlight the accomplishment of these two young professionals and their contribution to our society.

1. Tell us a little bit about yourselves. Where did you attend school? What made you choose Civil Engineering as your major? Where do you work? What do you do? What do you do for fun?

**Yulet Miguel** – I went to Florida International University and decided Engineering as my major because I genuinely loved the idea of building things. I currently work in HDR Miami Lakes office as a Highway Engineer. Design of Roadways and Signals have always been my passion, and now I am involved in drainage design. For fun, I like to exercise, spend time with my family, participate in ASCE events and on Sundays... we brunch!
Patrick Kaimrajh – I went to the University of Miami. I chose civil engineering, because I thought it was cool (and still think it is) to work on large scale projects, not only in physical size, but on projects that make a daily impact. I work at Chen Moore and Associates in the Miami Office as a Senior Engineer, working on a variety of projects, including neighborhood improvement projects and land development, with a strong focus on stormwater design. For fun, I enjoy Hurricanes football, jogging, cooking, and eating.

2. What made you decide to join the American Society of Civil Engineers back in college?

YM: In college, I was a bit on the shy side and met a colleague named Jennifer Borges. She was very outgoing and used to be a cheerleader in High School. We both decided to run for the e-board for the FIU Student Chapter. This is where my ASCE track began and hasn’t hit an end yet. Yulet and Patrick attended several Student Conferences together.
PK: I joined ASCE in college primarily for free pizza. But a good friend of mine, Chris Zavatsky, roped me in to many events, including concrete canoe and career fairs, and I quickly became very much involved in ASCE.

3. What have been some of the most difficult obstacles you have had to face in your career?

YM: Studying for the Professional Engineering license while juggling my two kids, at the time 3 and 1, and a full time job has definitely been my greatest challenge. Overall I enjoy my career and everything that has come along with it.

PK: I’ve been blessed to have a great support system of family, friends, and colleagues to help shield impacts from obstacles in my career. Like many, I’ve been involved with multitudes of projects with late nights, long weekends, and pushy clients which have been specifically difficult. But fortunately, I have not faced obstacles that I would consider exceptionally difficult.

4. Patrick and Yulet, how did you get to your current role as President of the Miami-Dade ASCE Section Branch and what aspired you to get there?

PK: I got involved with the Miami-Dade Branch as Student Member Relations Liaison immediately after graduating from UM. The team collaboration and fun events for the Miami-Dade Branch, especially the Younger Members Group kept me intrigued and helped me stay passionate about ASCE.
YM: I began as Chair of the History & Heritage Committee since I have a passion for photography. From there, ASCE just became second nature.

5. Patrick what advice do you have for our new President?

PK: I’m not sure I need to share much advice with Yulet, she already is very capable and I don’t want to give her too many tools to be a better president than me. Kidding aside, my advice would be to enjoy the ride. Congratulate the team on successes and focus on the positive. Encourage the involvement of other members and welcome challenges and trying times as opportunities for growth. Do not be afraid to ask for help and don’t be afraid to say “no” when needed.

Yulet what changes, if any, do you want to make in your new role?

YM: My past presidents have left me a strong branch and I have some pretty big shoes to fill. As president, I plan to nurture all those events that have brought much success to the branch and also begin to plan need seeds. My main focus this year will be the growth of the STEM events and the institutes.

6. Patrick what will you miss most about being the Miami-Dade ASCE Section Branch President?

PK: What I enjoy most about being involved with Miami-Dade ASCE is the great group of people we have involved. Because I hope to stay involved, I don’t think I’ll miss much in that sense. I do enjoy being part of the planning and organization of exciting events, so I will miss having a more direct role now that I am past-president, but I look forward to serving as a thin-haired, gray-bearded resource to the new leaders blazing their new trails.

Yulet, what are you most looking forward to in your new role?

YM: Like Patrick said before, Free Food!

7. What advice, based on your experience, do you have to offer engineering students and young professionals?

PK: Be nice, always listen, don’t be afraid to accept a challenge, and don’t be afraid to fail. Be humble but not meager. Associate yourself with colleagues and professionals you respect both inside and outside of the workplace/classroom. Life is not 100% engineering, so set some time aside for yourself.

YM: Use college to find yourself, and enjoy it. You have a lifetime to work but time does not last. Make every moment count and make the best of every day. Participate in as many events, socials, study groups and clubs or organizations. Network and create relationships, in the end the same people you went to school with may be your colleagues and even your best friends. Personally, the membership chair, Jennifer Borges, has been one of my best friends since college.
Somerset Academy Public Charter School

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Miami-Dade Branch had an impactful presence at the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Invention Convention 2017 for Somerset Academy Public Charter School on December 9th of 2017. The purpose of the event was to promote STEM to students enrolled in Middle School (6-8th grade) and Highschool (9th-12th grade).

Barton Fye, PE (ASCE Florida Section secretary), Enit Medina, PE (ASCE Miami-Dade Outreach Committee member) and Jose Otero, PE (ASCE member) volunteered their time to judge the 40+ invention projects and offered advice to all students participating in the STEM Convention 2017. The projects were developed to follow the scientific method by testing creative ideas with dependent/independent variables and controls. The projects varied from cell phone signal blocker paint to electronic soda dispenser to solving real-world problems by great inventions.
HML Robotics Program Presentation with FES

On Dec 5th, President Yulet Miguel met with FES Past President John Hall, STEM Director Susan Hall, and Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Luiz Collazo at Hialeah Miami Lakes (HML) Senior High School. HML has a specialized magnet and has some very enthusiastic kids that are competing in robotics competitions. They prepared a presentation about their current and upcoming projects, and explained how much they would benefit from our feedback and real-world experience. The collaboration of ASCE and FES along with HML and the Town will expand this initiative at this school or, at a minimum, have an opportunity to inspire and support these young minds whom are gravitating to your professions. More details about upcoming events to be posted at a later time.
Outreach Committee Update

Project BUILD

In the last newsletter it was briefly mentioned that ASCE Miami-Dade had the privilege in assisting the African-American Research Library and Broward County in Project Build, which a STEM pilot program to educate the youth about Engineering “The library is one of two institutions in the country chosen to serve as pilot sites for a new three-year study, Project BUILD (Building Using an Interactive Learning Design). It’s targeted to underserved areas.” said the Sun Sentinel on a post dated September 13, 2017. Elementary students were invited to four separate sessions, each the second Saturday of every month, starting in September and concluded early December 2017.

The program featured engineering topics and each session was led by Mrs. Lisa Jackson (Librarian Supervisor) from the African-American Research Library, Rodrigo Torres (FAU Student Chapter President) and other students from Florida Atlantic University and ASCE Miami-Dade’s Outreach team led by Evelyn Rodriguez, PE (Chair) and Yulet Miguel, PE (President). Outreach members Enit Medina and LaKeeVia Jackson assisted in several sessions as well.

The two-hour Ready, Set, Create: Project BUILD classes ran through December.

• Sept. 23, 3 p.m.: Span-tastic Bridges: From Here to There.
• Oct. 14, 1 p.m.: Designed to Survive: Engineering for Disasters.

• Nov. 11, 1 p.m.: Clean Up Our World.
Dec. 9, 1 p.m.: Power from Nature.

The pilot is part of a $1.1 million grant from the National Science Foundation. It's partnership of the Space Science Institute's National Center for Interactive Learning, the University of Virginia and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Thanks to all the volunteers!

If you want to get involved in STEM Outreach events please contact us at Outreach@miamidade-asce.org.

For additional pictures please check our website: https://photos.app.goo.gl/d1iUJ0f48fTPgeiL2

Regards,

ASCE Miami-Dade Outreach Committee
Joint COPRI-EWRI Event Technical Talk and Networking Social “Design of Living Shorelines”

On Thursday, November 2\textsuperscript{nd}, the COPRI & EWRI institutes held a joint event that included a Technical Talk on the design and construction of Living Shorelines and held a networking social after the talk. Leonard Barrera Allen, COPRI chair, along with Margarita Wells, EWRI chair, jointly organized the event with support from the Branch President Yulet Miguel. The technical talk was performed by the City of Miami Beach Sustainability Manager, Flavia Tonioli.

The talk focused on the design of living shorelines as a means of reinforcing existing shorelines, minimizing coastal erosion, and protecting and enhancing the natural habitat for aquatic plants and wildlife. Current living shoreline projects in the City of Miami Beach were highlighted and shown as an effective application of living shorelines. Members that attended had the opportunity to receive a 1 PDH credit, and networked after the technical talk. We would like to thank all who attended the event!

\textit{Happy Holidays!}

\textbf{Get Involved with Miami-Dade COPRI!}
We are looking for members to fill out officer positions in the Miami-Dade COPRI Chapter and other members to input their suggestions for events, technical talks, and other matters related to the institute. Contact \texttt{COPRI@MiamiDade-ASCE.org} for more information.
OVERVIEW

With half the school year being over, our E-Board Student Chapter has been doing just what they said they were going to do, continue to give our members the best opportunities.

PAST EVENTS

Throughout the last half of the Fall Semester, FIU-ASCE hosted its first career of the school year, inaugurated its new members, and had two resume workshops, which helped a few of our members land interviews, and possible internship opportunities.

Resume Workshops: The workshops were compromised of two different events that all lead to one goal, improve your resume as well as your interviewing skills. The first event consisted of networking, resume building, and interviewing tips, which was led by Albert Castro from BCC Engineering. The second event was cohosted by the ASCE Miami Dade Branch. During this event, several experienced professionals from different companies gave mock up interviews, in addition to some resume tips.

Career Fair: FIU-ASCE’s career fair is always one of our most anticipated events, and this time was no different. With more than ten companies attending as well as over fifty members, it is safe to say that our career fair was a success like previous year’s.

ASCE Southeast Student Conference: The University of Florida will be hosting the ASCE Southeast Student Conference during Spring 2018. This event brings over 1,000 students in which during a three-day period, they test and compete their latest designs.

FUTURE EVENTS

As the school year continues, the E-Board must now start to give its full attention to the ASCE Conference, which includes getting ready for all major and minor competitions, as well as the logistics of the trip.
With the school year already at its half point, it is the intention of the E-Board to continue to provide more fieldtrips, socials, and career opportunities for the current members, as well as to recruit new members for the Chapter. The E-Board is ready and excited to continue serving its members throughout the second half of the 2017-2018 academic year!

On December 7, 2017, the FIU ASCE Student Chapter held its annual induction ceremony. From the ASCE Miami-Dade Branch, Mr. Reinaldo Villa, PE, Secretary, and Mr. Daniel Giraldo, Student Member Relations Committee Chair, of the ASCE Miami-Dade Branch, were present to discuss their experience with ASCE on both a student and professional level, and answered many questions regarding our profession. It was great to see how the FIU chapter has grown over the years, and we look forward to continuing to help the student chapter succeed.
NEW ENGINEER INTERNS

Congratulations to recent EI’s from FIU!

Adriana Castillo, E.I.
Alfredo I. Falcon, E.I.
Antonio Covas E.I
Carlos Formoso, E.I.
David A. Rojas, E.I.
Diego Bueno, E.I.
Eliciel Gonzalez, E.I
Elio Bustos, E.I
Jael Zambrano, E.I.
Jean J. Boursiquot, E.I.
Jorge Rubio, E.I.
Juan Pablo Gonzalez, E.I.
Luciana Casalino, E.I.
Marimar D. Maestre, E.I.
Mary Ellen Crist, E.I.
Michelle Garcia, E.I.
Tanya Leo, E.I.
On the day of our originally scheduled first formal student meeting of the semester, classes were canceled due to hurricane Irma. Due to the early release from classes and the extent of the debris left on campus, students had nearly three weeks away from school. Upon our return, we revised our calendar for to account for the time lost due to the storm and scheduled our first formal meeting for the first Tuesday of October. This first meeting brought in more members than any of our previous year’s meetings; however, not a single freshman on our mailing list from Canefest made an appearance. We believe that the interruption caused by Irma may have taken ASCE of the radar of some students so we are now looking at revisiting all of the freshman classes to hopefully attract some more people to join.

Following our first meeting, we hosted several events including a social networking event held in conjunction with the UM chapter of Chi Epsilon (the civil engineering honor society). The event brought in nearly 40 students and local professionals to the UM Rathskeller where they conversed over drinks and appetizers. Additionally, we held a fundraiser at the Chipotle near the UM campus. Due to a great showing of support from both UM students and other Chipotle patrons, we came home with almost $400 from this short event.

UM ASCE additionally held two more general meetings in November and December. In November, we had guest speakers from FPCA and had a speedy marshmallow and toothpick bridge building team competition. At the last meeting of the semester, we hosted PSI-Intertek and had a cornhole competition to practice for the upcoming Southeast Student Conference.

We have also begun to prepare for the conference competitions. Our concrete canoe mold has been fabricated and we are currently gathering materials to pour it in mid-January. We have also begun working on mix designs for the other concrete based events. Hotels and transportation has also been booked.

As we leave for the winter holidays, we are confident in our preparations and are looking forward to a busy and successful new year!

Best,

2017-18 Board
President – Nick Karpathy
VP Internal – Sammi Mirante
VP External – Alex Plumb
Treasurer – Rachel Deradoorian
Secretary – Maddy Hollowed
Concrete Canoe Captain – Austin King
Faculty Advisor – Dr. Diana Arboleda
UESI MEMBER IN FOCUS: CHRIS ZAVATSKY
Featured on ASCE News – Friday, September 22, 2017

Christopher Adam Zavatsky, P.E., M.ASCE is the lead civil engineer for Tetra Tech in Miami, Florida where he works with municipal and county clients on utility improvements, structure hardening, and floodplain-related projects. He guides a team of young engineers and subconsultants responsible for delivering master plans, preliminary designs, hydraulic modeling, infrastructure evaluation, technical opinions, cost estimating, project coordination, design drawings, permits, bidding assistance, construction administration, project closeout, and overall client satisfaction.

Mr. Zavatsky is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Florida with ten (10) years of professional practice in water resources, land development, and environmental engineering in both the public and private sectors.

He has been active in ASCE since 2005 including one year as President (2013 - 2014) of the Miami-Dade Branch and recently completed a 2-year term as Chair of the first local chapter of UESI. Mr. Zavatsky now chairs the Technical Activities Committee for the ASCE Florida Section, oversees the Miami-Dade Branch’s governing documents, and assists the Florida-based local chapters of the ASCE Technical Institutes.
Mr. Zavatsky is husband to his wife, Leticia, and proud father to Matthew Dominic (7), Sarah Grace (5), and Lucas Augustin (3). As a family, they enjoy kids' movie night on Fridays and vacation road trips.

**Where were you born and where was most of your upbringing?**

I was born in Houston, Texas and moved to Fort Knox, Kentucky via the military at age 9. In high school, I was a foreign exchange student through the American Field Service (AFS) and lived in Quito, Ecuador. This experience led me to my next endeavor at age 18 where I entered college studies at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida.

**What were some of the motivating factors for you to go into civil engineering and who were some influential people in your career path?**

I grew interests in architecture and engineering as a child. I was often doodling, imagining structures, shapes, forces, and playing outside. As a youngster, I was drawn to Legos like many others. My Dad kept an active role in my adolescence by participating with me in Boy Scouts and sharing books with me such as "The Way Things Work".

In middle school, I thought my career path would take me into accounting following my Mom's career; while I enjoyed math and managing my earnings from mowing the neighborhood lawns, the job taught me about mechanics and money, but it was only a piece of my career desire.

In my freshman year at Meade County High School in Brandenburg, Kentucky, I saw students working with something called Computer Aided Graphics. This lit up my imagination. I met with Mike Harreld, the class instructor, who informed me that I would have to first take hand drafting. Attention to line quality, perspective, and design elements put me on a path toward architecture, but this too was only a piece of my career desire.
I chose to study architectural engineering which seemed to include all of my interests. It wasn't until 2 years into college studies, while working as a research assistant on an environmental engineering project, that I realized I wanted to also play in the dirt. Civil Engineering was calling me. I added one more year of college loans, because I knew the industry could offer me a great future. While in college, I met Jose Acosta who was active in the American Society of Civil Engineers and took great interest in helping engineering students grow and develop. I stayed close to his path watching and learning as he mentored me.

**What are some important lessons you learned in your career path that you abide by still today?**

Clarity in technical writing. With much thanks to my college English professors, Rick Kemp and Andrew Green, and my supervisor, Ken Caban, I learned how to write a story about my work in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

No project is a simple project. Each project has a present and future community relying on you to watch out for their best interests.

In working with colleagues, we must be patient and understand that everyone grows differently, even me.

Pray for wisdom and compassion so as to be able to respond to the stresses and shocks buried deep in the fabric of the world around us.

**What do you enjoy most about civil engineering?**

What is not civil engineering? Civil engineering is the universe and all its life and resources. Engineers are the makers of tomorrow.

**What are some of the biggest challenges that you see on the horizon in civil engineering and globally?**

Education. Faith. Government. Engineers must build and maintain communities that support civil engineering as a top priority. Anything less will result in the degradation of our communities, from infrastructure to human arts.
Visioning Workshop for the Resilient Utility Coalition at PortMiami

What are some of the challenges you face and rewards gained from serving as Chair of the Miami-Dade Chapter?

In our case, starting the Chapter was relatively simple, and October 1 will be our second anniversary. Our officers have been active in our community, lending support and organizing joint activities with other professional organizations such as the Resilient Utility Coalition. It is rewarding to me to see utility industry professionals that are not engineers joining in UESI's efforts for our local community. Our growth has lead us to developing our officer positions and forming special task committees.

Establishing Chapter bylaws has served us well in getting to this point, but herein lies some challenges. As a group of Officers and in collaboration with UESI, your Section, and your Branch, you have to chart your territory and define your purpose. UESI Director John Segna and the ASCE Miami-Dade Branch Board of Directors were of great help to us in completing this governing document. I recommend Chairs of other local Chapters review a copy of our bylaws if you are looking for a starting point.

**Please share important things those who are thinking of establishing their own local chapter should consider?**

Take courage. It's not that hard. If you live and work in an area filled with industry professionals that have an interest in discussing their work, then you might have the right ingredients. Having a local Institute Chapter brings ASCE members and non-members together to serve the local community. Organize technical meetings with continuing education, relax together at a social event, or plan a site visit to one of your local "modern marvels."

If you ever get stuck, think of a local Institute Chapter like fire. You need 3 components: fuel, a spark, and oxygen. Your industry provides the fuel. You and your colleagues provide the spark. Your team's dreams and ideas for an improved industry is the oxygen.

**Can you tell us about your current work and projects at Tetra Tech?**

I serve as the technical lead and project manager on several master planning and design projects for water utilities in South Florida. The work is really exciting and I am blessed to be with such a remarkable team of professionals.
Fun with the 2017 Planning Committee at the ASCE Tri-County Workshop at Long Key Nature Center in Davie, Florida - June 29, 2017. Pictured left to right: Paola Davalos, Julie Parham, Brent Whitfield, Patrick Kaimrajh, Rafael Jimenez, Ricardo Vieira, Chris Zavatsky, Hasan Rizvi, Jose Lopez, Jose Acosta.

And your personal goals and plans for the next year?

In the months ahead, I will be studying to become a Certified Floodplain Manager which will aid in some of my project efforts at Tetra Tech.

Through my church, I am serving as Assistant Cubmaster to my son’s Cub Scout Pack. We are planning a few camping trips, one of which at Kennedy Space Center where we will camp beneath a rockets ship.

Through the ASCE Florida Section, I am serving a Chair of the Technical Activities Committee. Aside from pulling together technical articles and abstracts from engineers, I will be aiding the Section and its 13 Branches to develop and grow our local Institute Chapters state-wide.

For the ASCE Miami-Dade Branch, I will assist the Board of Directors, Committees, and local Institute chapters where needed and I will continue serving as Chair of the Governing Documents Committee where I update our Operating Manual to support the functions and strategic plans of the Branch.
Member Get a Member Referral Program

Where you can earn rewards for the new ASCE members you recruit

Our mission at ASCE is to provide essential value to our members and partners, advance civil engineering, and serve the public good. Growing the number of civil engineers that have access to the industry’s most comprehensive communication, networking, and learning resources through ASCE membership is essential to achieving this mission.

For 2017 we are encouraging existing members, like you, to earn rewards for the new members you recruit by making it easy for you to invite your peers to become part of the largest professional civil engineering network in the world.

Rewards

The rewards you earn for successful referrals vary, depending on where you reside.

US RESIDENTS

- For every new member you recruit you get a $50 Amazon.com Gift Card
- Become our most successful advocate for 2017 and as a bonus you will get a $500 Amazon.com Gift Card

Program Rules

US RESIDENTS

1. This contest is open to ALL ASCE members who are in good standing. ASCE Employees and members of their immediate families and household are NOT eligible.
2. New/reinstated members are officially credited to the recruiter when ASCE Society dues are paid-in-full.
3. All applications and dues payments must be received between January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017.
4. For each Society dues paid applicant the domestic recruiter will receive a $50.00 Amazon.com Gift Card*. Gift cards will be disseminated monthly.
5. Grand Prize: A $500.00 Amazon.com Gift Card* will be awarded to the top domestic recruiter. The grand prize will be disseminated by February 1, 2018.
   a. The top recruiter will have recruited the largest number of members and the highest amount of Society dues income.
   b. In the event of a tie, the Grand Prize winner will be the recruiter with highest Section dues income value.

6. The recruitment of Student Members is not included in this contest.
   a. Students may recruit professional members.

7. Reinstated members must have been away from membership for three or more years.

8. The contest rules and prizes are subject to change by the ASCE staff. By entering the contest, members agree that ASCE’s decisions are final and not open to challenge.

9. No purchase necessary to enter or win. All federal, state and local laws apply. Void where prohibited. ASCE reserves the right to change the prizes offered.
   a. If no purchase or recruitment is made, send a postcard labeled “ASCE MGAM Drawing Entry” to ASCE MGAM Drawing Entry, 1801 Alexander Bell Dr., Reston, VA 20191. The postcard must include the complete name, member/customer identification number (if available), email address and mailing address. Contestants may only enter once through this method.

Find out more about this program on http://message.asce.org/mgam.

Upcoming Continuing Education Web Seminars

ASCE FLORIDA SECTION
Miami-Dade Branch

January 8th, 2018  (LFRD) For Geotechnical Engineering Features: Design of Ground Anchors and Anchored Wall Systems
January 9th, 2018  Practical Design of Bolted and Welded Steel Connections
January 9th, 2018  Geosynthetic Reinforced Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls
January 10th, 2018 Dredging Fundamentals
January 11th, 2018 Hydraulic Performance of Detention Pond Outlet Structures
January 12th, 2018 Tornado Design Using ASCE 7-16 Commentary - NEW

Webinars are convenient, low-cost, and an efficient training option. Login anywhere and interact with the instructor and other participants. Our webinars cover practical, targeted topics taught by experts in their field. Gain knowledge and earn PDHs. Detailed descriptions of upcoming web seminars are available on ASCE’s website at http://www.asce.org/continuing-education/live-webinars/.
We’re on Twitter!

Follow us, join us, support us! @ascemiamidade

We reached 500 Followers on Instagram!

Follow us on Instagram! @ascemiamidade
JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Multiple Positions Available in Florida

When disaster strikes, America looks to FEMA to support survivors and first responders in communities all across the country. We are currently seeking talented and hard-working people to help support the hurricane response and recovery efforts in Florida.

Locations

- Miami
- Fort Myers
- Orlando
- Tallahassee

Available Positions

- Floodplain Management
- Cost Analysis
- Civil Engineering
- Site Inspections
- Flood or Casualty Insurance Sales
- Historic Preservation
- And more!

Apply Now

If you are interested in a position and a resident in one of the listed locations above, please email your resume to FEMA-Workforce-FL@Fema.dhs.gov and include your location the subject line. For more information, visit FEMA's Hurricane Workforce webpage.

Contact Information

Office of the Chief Component Human Capital Officer
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of Homeland Security
Email  fema-careers@fema.dhs.gov
Web  careers.fema.gov
Dream Big: Engineering Our World

All around the world, engineers are pushing the limits of ingenuity and innovation in unexpected, imaginative, and amazing ways. Dream Big: Engineering Our World, a giant-screen film about engineering, will take viewers on a journey of discovery from the world’s tallest building to a bridge higher than the clouds. Along the way, the audience will witness how today’s engineers are shaping the world of tomorrow.

Combined with educational programming and powerful media, Dream Big will:

- Inform the public about the important work engineers do, helping to heighten interest and change perceptions about the profession
- Inspire young people to consider careers in engineering
- Answer the demand for K-12 engineering education resources, in alignment with the Next Generation Science Standards
Is Your ASCE Membership Up to Date?

As an ASCE member, you’re connected to the latest industry trends, linked to the best professional development programs, and engaged with a network of colleagues worldwide. Even more, your continued involvement builds a solid foundation for keeping your career on track and moving toward achieving your professional and personal goals.

Avoid an interruption in your benefits -- renew today by any of the following options:

• Online at www.asce.org/renewal (the quickest and easiest way);
• By phone at 800-548-ASCE (2723)
• By mail to ASCE Membership, P.O. Box 79084, Baltimore, MD 21279-0084.

Please remember to check the boxes for Florida Section – Miami-Dade Branch. Of the $45 Section/Branch dues, $30 goes to the Florida Section and $15 goes to our Branch. This contribution helps us to provide you with outstanding professional development and networking events each year and offers a discount for attendance.

We encourage all members to also voluntarily include a $10 contribution to Miami-Dade Branch to help our committees, technical institutes and many other worthwhile activities the Branch supports during the year.

### Events Calendar

**January:**
- 18 – YMG Social
- 20 – Future Cities at FIU
- 27 – Florida Section Board Meeting at University of South Florida

**February:**
- 9-10 – Eastern Region Multi-Leadership Conference and WSBL in Buffalo, NY
- 10 – SECME Olympiad and Festival at Miami-Dade College North Campus
- 21 – CI Technical Luncheon
- 25: Math Counts at Miami-Dade College Kendall Campus

**March:**
- 1-3: Southeastern Student Conference in University of Florida, Gainesville

*Event Dates are subject to change, and more events may be added to the schedule. For more information on ASCE events, please visit [www.miamidadeasce.org/events](http://www.miamidadeasce.org/events).*

### Renewal Item Table

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Special Thanks to Our Newsletter Sponsor

We Are Looking for Sponsors!

Each month we send our newsletter to hundreds of Engineers located in South Florida. We are currently seeking sponsors for our monthly newsletter. The sponsorship rates are as follows:

- **Full Page** - $100 per month or $600 for twelve months
- **Half Page** - $75 per month or $400 for twelve months
- **Business Card** - $25 per month or $120 for twelve months

If you are interested, please e-mail communications@miamidade-asce.org.
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