2020 has certainly been a year unlike any other. While some of the American Concrete Institute’s activities didn’t go according to plan, our Institute—and our industry—pivoted quickly and accomplished much!

We often discuss concrete in terms of sustainability and resilience. In the past year, we have demonstrated ACI’s sustainability and resilience and we have continued “Always Advancing” in the face of an historic pandemic. While we all eagerly await the day we can convene in person again, we have found that transitioning to largely virtual interaction has amplified the Institute’s community connections. Meeting with our members, partners, and chapters around the world—through computers and tablets instead of in offices and convention centers—has provided the opportunity for innumerable discussions and advancement. While nothing can or ever will replace our in-person connections, our committees have also pivoted—continuing their ever-important work of standardizing and publishing best practices on concrete materials, design, and construction.

The increased outreach opportunities afforded by virtual platforms have been demonstrated by our chapter seminar series that in many cases attracted 1500 to 2000 new attendees. The ACI Virtual Concrete Convention this past October attracted all-time record attendance of both students and members. We are reaching more people than ever, both domestically and globally, many of whom have attended their first ACI event because of the virtual meetings. Our challenge going forward will be integrating the virtual meeting format with in-person meetings to the extent possible.

Acknowledging the growing importance of digital dissemination of knowledge, the Institute has increased online education programming and invested heavily in a new delivery platform for technical content. Building off the consensus-based knowledge in the Institute’s codes, specifications, and practices, ACI 318 PLUS will be the first product to launch on this platform, in March 2021, and provide ACI 318 users and subscribers with unprecedented digital access to concrete design resources.

I can’t wait to see the fruits of our dedication, evident in the progress and innovation coming to you through 2021 and beyond, and I eagerly look forward to connecting with you in person.

Jeffrey W. Coleman, ACI President
Membership in the American Concrete Institute means knowledge! Beginning January 1, 2021, ACI membership includes free access to all ACI University’s live webinars and 220+ on-demand courses, plus unlimited access to the Institute’s practices (including all ACI guides and reports) and symposium papers – providing members with unprecedented access to all of the Institute’s knowledge resources. Combined with the many other benefits ACI membership provides – including substantial discounts, a monthly magazine, research journals, free shipping, and more – ACI membership provides you with the chance to save time and money while increasing your productivity and competitiveness.

ACI has solutions for concrete industry professionals who want to take advantage of industry-leading digital learning programs. ACI produces hundreds of resources dedicated to improving the design, construction, maintenance, and repair of concrete and masonry structures. Additionally, through the online version of the ACI Collection of Concrete Codes, Specifications, and Practices, you get access to the most comprehensive and largest single source of information on concrete design, construction, and materials, with nearly 50 codes and specifications and more than 200 practices – including all guides and reports.

ACI members push the concrete industry further, adapting to new technology, investing in their careers, and dedicating to improvement of concrete design, materials, and construction. You don’t have to be an ACI member to work in the concrete industry, but if you want to exceed expectations in it, there’s no better place to be. Whether you’re a student just starting out, or have years under your belt, ACI membership ensures that no matter what changes the world brings, you will be prepared to thrive, and your life’s work will last for generations.
The American Concrete Institute focused its efforts in 2020 to respond to and address needs within the industry. In response, ACI has had new state code adoptions, new committees formed, and new products released. Attendees gathered at the spring and fall ACI Virtual Concrete Conventions to work on committees and to collaborate on advancing concrete codes, specifications, and practices, during hundreds of committee meetings. Technical and educational sessions provided the latest concrete research, case studies, best practices, and the opportunity to earn Professional Development Hours. Top projects in the ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Awards were announced, and several virtual networking and special events took place – building on the convention’s tradition as the world’s gathering place for advancing concrete.

The seventh edition of the Florida Building Code (FBC) now references ACI 562-19, “Code Requirements for the Assessment, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Existing Concrete Structures.” Florida has become the third state in the United States to reference ACI 562, joining Hawaii and Ohio.

In 2020, ACI announced new and expanded partnerships with the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute and the Post-Tensioning Institute. These partnerships expand ACI Committee 319, Precast Structural Concrete Code, into a joint committee cosponsored by both ACI and the Precast/ Prestressed Concrete Institute. It also formalizes efforts through the new Joint ACI-PTI Committee 320, Post-Tensioned Structural Concrete Code.

ACI continues to offer the industry up-to-date information through the ACI Collection. The ACI Collection is the most comprehensive and largest single source of information on concrete design, construction, and materials, with nearly 50 codes and specifications and more than 200 practices. The ACI Collection features ACI 318, “Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete”; ACI 301, “Specifications for Structural Concrete”; and ACI 562, “Code Requirements for Assessment, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Existing Concrete Structures and Commentary.”

In March 2021, ACI is releasing a brand-new industry-leading product, ACI 318 PLUS. ACI 318 PLUS is an annual subscription that provides users with digital interactive access to ACI 318-19 along with in-document access to related resources and enhanced digital search features through all code provisions and commentary. It also includes full digital interactive access to the ACI Detailing Manual and the ACI Reinforced Concrete Design Manual.
ACI Certification programs provide industry-leading assessment and certification credentials to qualified individuals with demonstrated competence and skill. With more than 100,000 ACI-certified individuals throughout approximately 100 countries, concrete construction projects across the globe are built with confidence because of specified ACI Certification.

Many local, national, and international building codes require personnel who are certified by the American Concrete Institute, resulting in significant cost and time savings, high-quality work project-wide, and excellent quality control. Across more than 30 testing, inspection, and construction/specialist certification programs, individuals and project owners are experiencing the confidence provided by ACI Certification.

ACI Certification has also launched several new programs in its lineup of concrete inspection certification programs, including: Post-Installed Concrete Anchor Installation Inspector; Nondestructive Testing Specialist – Concrete Strength; and Shotcrete Inspector.

New online and app-based resources have also been developed to enable anyone to verify the status of ACI-certified individuals. Through the ACI Certification Verify app or concrete.org/verify, users can quickly and easily search and verify by an individual’s name, certification ID number, or by program area (an option that yields the total number of ACI-certified individuals in an area).

The construction industry should not only expect quality work but should also specify craftsmen who have proven their knowledge and experience by becoming ACI-certified. A growing number of required certified personnel on jobsites combined with increasing demand for a wider range of ACI programs highlights the confidence in ACI Certification.
The inaugural American Concrete Institute Resource Center was recently launched to help assist the industry in meeting the demand for further access to ACI knowledge. Located in San Bernardino, CA, USA, the ACI Resource Center – Southern California, coordinates with ACI chapters and sponsoring groups to offer direct, on-demand access to all ACI certification programs, hands-on training, and education opportunities.

With plans for additional ACI Resource Centers in other popular regions of the U.S., the Institute is committed to supporting its chapters and sponsoring groups in meeting the ever-growing industry demand for access to ACI offerings. Opening facilities that are capable of conducting ACI certification programs, plus other hands-on training and educational programs for inspectors, contractors, designers, and engineers shows ACI’s commitment to Always Advancing.

Through a coordinated effort with ACI and its volunteers, chapters, and sponsoring groups, ACI Resource Centers will serve as a place for concrete enthusiasts to further their knowledge and expertise. Announcements on scheduled programs and additional ACI Resource Center locations will be coming soon.

“The new ACI Resource Center in Southern California opened quietly in late 2020 to help meet the region’s strong demand for ACI resources. Soon at this center, I know that we will welcome countless individuals seeking access to all ACI certification programs, hands-on training, and education offerings.”

– Ronald G. Burg, Executive Vice President, ACI
Always advancing – The American Concrete Institute is a leading global authority for the development, dissemination, and adoption of its consensus-based standards; technical resources; and educational, training, & certification programs. Founded in 1904, ACI is headquartered in Farmington Hills, Michigan, USA, with a regional office in Dubai, UAE, and a resource center in Southern California. Visit concrete.org for additional information.

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**ACI Subsidiaries**

[AOE](https://www.aonet.org) | [ACI Foundation](https://www.acifoundation.org)
Being involved with ACI means you help to advance built infrastructure for the next generation. Being involved with the ACI Foundation means building a better future for the concrete industry through a community spirit of giving back. During an unpredictable year, the ACI Foundation was grateful for the strong commitment from donors, volunteers, and the concrete community, which kept programs thriving and successful.

In 2020, the ACI Foundation helped fund eight essential research projects, provided tuition stipends to 20 of the finest students; helped pay for books, classes, and access to the ACI community via ACI Concrete Conventions. Long-term research projects were completed and the ACI Foundation’s Strategic Development Council held their first virtual Technology Forum, which had the highest attendance ever. Continued growth is on the horizon thanks to the Foundation’s dedicated supporters.

“I want to work with others who are trying to move the concrete industry forward. Getting involved with ACI will be tremendously impactful with my coursework and beyond.”

ACI Foundation Student Fellowship Awardee, Bjorn Vors, University of Saskatchewan

$450,000 for research projects

Two Technology Forums to support new and innovative technology

Nearly $200,000 distributed to dedicated students
The ACI Foundation thanks all its donors of 2020. Working together as partners, along with ACI, you have made a difference in our community and our future.

**Inspiring major donors of 2020:**

Robert F. Mast, former ACI President, passed away in July 2020 and was recently honored with a generous donation of $300,000 to the ACI Foundation to begin a memorial fellowship. Mast’s iconic legacy will continue for many years to come through student grantees.

Dr. Surendra Shah has made a profound impact on numerous careers in the concrete industry by being a mentor, professor, and friend. His guidance continues with a donation of $54,000 to create the first fellowship solely for PhD students studying in the industry.

Advancing Organizational Excellence (AOE), ACI’s subsidiary, pledged $75,000 to create a fellowship for students in the Concrete Industry Management program. The fellowship provides students interested in sales, marketing, or administrative roles an opportunity to explore the concrete industry as a career.

Baker Concrete Construction, Inc., a long-term supporter of students, donates $45,000 annually to support student fellowships. Dan Baker was one of the founders of the ACI Foundation’s fellowship program in 2008 – his pledge was to attract the best and brightest for the industry.

William (Bill) Maloney loved Rainier beer, smoked salmon, and chocolate chip cookies. He also loved ACI and the concrete industry. Maloney passed away in 2019, leaving a generous gift of $25,000 to the ACI Foundation in 2020.

ACI Greater Miami Valley Chapter donated $20,000 as an unrestricted matching gift for ACI Foundation’s fall campaign that benefits all ACI Foundation programs.

Jeffrey W. Coleman, President of the American Concrete Institute, announced a challenge at the ACI Virtual Concrete Convention to raise $1 million as part of the ACI Foundation’s annual appeal. His challenge applies to the remainder of his term as President through the end of March 2021.

“Making a contribution is part of making an impact,” stated Coleman. “We are all committed to ensuring that our communities remain safe, sustainable, and innovative and carry our concrete technical legacy into the future just as our predecessors have. The Foundation provides a dynamic method for making this vision a reality.”

Jeffrey Coleman, CEO, The Coleman Law Firm, LLC and ACI President

100% of donations go towards supporting ACI Foundation programs.

Visit [ACIFoundation.org](http://ACIFoundation.org) to start making a difference.

For questions, connect with Ann Masek, Executive Director, at ann.masek@acifoundation.org or +1.248.848.3144.