# News

### **Emerging Leaders Alliance for Young Members**

The Emerging Leaders Alliance (ELA) is a partnership among leading engineering- and science-based organizations that provides high quality leadership training. The ELA hosts an interdisciplinary Leadership Conference for young professionals, providing advanced leadership training in topics such as management, personal branding, social styles, problem solving, presentation skills, and global diversity.

ACI will select seven young members to attend the ELA Conference on September 15-17, 2025, in Pittsburgh, PA, USA, as representatives of ACI. Desired applicants will have been in the concrete- or construction-related industry for less than 8 years. Selected applicants receive complimentary conference registration but are responsible for travel expenses, lodging, and some meals.

Applications will be accepted until June 1, 2025. For more information, visit www.concrete.org/newsandevents/emergingleadersallianceprogram.aspx.

## ACI Concrete Convention Initiatives Aimed at Engaging and Retaining Young Members

ACI introduced several initiatives at the ACI Concrete Convention – Spring 2025 in Toronto, ON, Canada, that are designed to strengthen engagement and retention among young members. With a focus on inclusivity and mentorship, ACI aims to equip the next generation with tools and connections that support long-term involvement in the concrete industry.

The week prior to convention, ACI added a Young Member Portal to the ACI website. The new webpage is a resource for recent graduates and new members interested in programs, events, and activities designed for individuals under the age of 35. The portal highlights programs such as the ELA Conference, the ACI Engineering Greatness Podcast, and the Free Convention Registration Program, as well as awards for young members and opportunities to lead and volunteer with various committees.

During the convention, a new booth was added to the ACI resource area in the convention exhibit hall—the young member programs booth. This was staffed by actively engaged volunteers who were available to answer questions about programs and provide guidance on how to navigate technical committee meetings and sessions. The booth was also used as a kick-off location for the ACI Career Connections Mentor Program. This 6-month online mentoring program will connect early career professionals with experienced ACI members who will provide guidance on professional development and orientation about committee work.

The Student and Young Professional Activities Committee (SYPAC), in collaboration with ACI Committee S806, Young Member Activities, sponsored a 2-hour Young Professional Poster Session for the first time during the recent convention. The goal of this poster session was to showcase the practical experience of young engineers, age 35 and younger, in the concrete industry. The session provided a venue for them to highlight meaningful contributions to projects, design solutions, case studies, or outstanding work performed through their employer.

For more information, visit www.concrete.org/students/ voungmember.aspx.

### ACI and PCI Release New Joint Structural Precast Concrete Code

ACI, in collaboration with the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI), announced the release of ACI/PCI CODE-319-25: Structural Precast Concrete—Code Requirements and Commentary in PDF format. This Code provides essential guidance for the materials, design, and detailing of structural precast concrete buildings and nonbuilding structures.

Developed through a rigorous consensus process, ACI/PCI CODE-319-25 sets minimum requirements for plant-produced and site-produced structural precast concrete incorporating nonprestressed or pretensioned reinforcement. The Design Standard Committee of PCI played a vital role in shaping the Code's provisions and commentary, contributing its extensive expertise to advance the industry.

ACI 319 PLUS subscribers have had exclusive digital access to ACI/PCI CODE-319-25 through the ACI PLUS Platform, featuring robust digital notetaking, enhanced search capabilities, three-dimensional (3-D) graphics, and comprehensive cross-referencing tools. With this release, the PDF version is now available for wider accessibility, ahead of the physical print edition.

#### ACI Foundation Unveils New Process for Identifying and Funding Research and Innovation Initiatives

The ACI Foundation announced a significant transformation in its approach to funding and supporting research and innovation within the concrete industry. This new format aims to provide balanced support for both defined and undefined research, ensuring a broader engagement to identify critical industry needs and prioritizing essential solutions for challenges that affect the entire sector.

The ACI Foundation invites members of the ACI community and the global concrete industry to submit project ideas related to innovation, research, and technology. The Foundation is particularly interested in initiatives addressing

ACI technical committee needs, supporting emerging technologies, and expanding the understanding and application of concrete materials, structures, and construction methodologies. From small-scale projects to comprehensive multi-year initiatives, the ACI Foundation is dedicated to supporting a wide array of project endeavors.

"By adopting a more flexible funding model, we hope to foster innovation throughout the concrete industry," stated ACI Foundation Executive Director Ann Masek. "This approach will empower the ACI Foundation to address industry wide challenges and support emerging technologies."

Project ideas may be submitted at any time throughout the year, with reviews, assessments, and funding decisions made according to an annual schedule. The new model allows the ACI Foundation to offer varied support, including funding stakeholder meetings and assisting in developing business plans or roadmaps.

The ACI Foundation may also create and post requests for

proposals (RFPs) based on defined topics. Proposals will be evaluated based on their relevance, potential impact, supplementary support, overall quality, and the capability of the research/project manager.

For more information, visit www.acifoundation.org.

#### **Registration Now Open for CFACON25**

The Concrete Foundations Association (CFA) opened registration for the 2025 CFA Concrete Foundations Convention (CFACON25), an annual gathering for the cast-in-place concrete industry, on July 17-19, 2025, in Deadwood, SD, USA.

This year's convention marks the 50th anniversary of the CFA and will include an anniversary celebration in addition to education sessions, networking opportunities, and a keynote speech from musician/business mogul Sandy Gennaro. The convention showcases 3 days of collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and celebration.



For more information and to register, visit https://cfa. users.membersuite.com/events/573fb936-0078-c4e8-8e96-0b4734b1f19b/details.

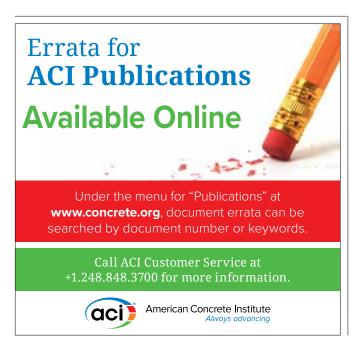
#### **Complimentary Concrete Masonry Education**

The Concrete Masonry Checkoff (CMC) announced the debut of the Block Learning Hub (BLH), a free-to-access, dynamic educational platform dedicated to equipping the design community with the resources needed to design resilient, sustainable, and high-performance buildings.

The BLH is accessible at www.beautyofblock.com/learn with the aim of increasing familiarity and understanding of concrete masonry systems, ensuring it as a top choice in construction material options. It will also give architects and engineers the ability to earn AIA and PDH continuing education credits while learning about the many benefits of concrete masonry.

A variety of architecture and engineering courses will be provided on topics such as structural masonry, sustainable and resilient building strategies, aesthetic and functional applications, and technical detailing and best practices. New courses will be continually added, building a series of content to strengthen expertise and offer a unique educational experience.

CMC is an industry-funded initiative to support education, research, and promotion of concrete masonry products in the United States. For more information, visit www.concretemasonrycheckoff.org.



#### **CRSI Names President and CEO**

The Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) announced **Lou Parous** as the 13th President and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute. Parous will oversee executive and strategic operations as well as steward the century-old Institute's future growth and influence.

Parous is a leader in international business and a long-time technical professional in the global metals, engineering, technical services, and large-scale construction segment. He brings 30+ years of dedication to the steel sector with a proven record of driving growth and transforming organizations. He is committed to promoting, advocating, and producing long-term strategic value to CRSI and its membership.

#### **NRMCA Names New Officers**

The National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) elected a new slate of officers for its 2025-2026 term. Succeeding **Nathan McKean**, BMC Enterprises, Inc., St. Louis, MO, USA, as Chairman of the Board of Directors is **G. Carlton Golden, Jr.**, President of Builders Supply Company, Inc., a CRH Company, Bossier City, LA, USA. Elected Vice Chairman was **Henry Batten**, President of Concrete Supply Co., LLC, Charlotte, NC, USA, and elected Secretary/Treasurer was **Scott Brewer**, Executive Vice President/COO of Dolese Bros. Co., Oklahoma City, OK, USA.

# ASCE AMPLIFY Digital Platform Adds Standards Supporting FEMA-BRIC Program

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) announced a new subscription package within its ASCE AMPLIFY interactive digital platform, which was released in 2023. The platform will now feature the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program: ASCE Standards and Manuals of Practice (MOPs) subscription package. This program is meant to help disadvantaged communities adopt resilient infrastructure that can prevent or withstand the impacts of severe weather events, a proactive approach rather than reactive (and more expensive) disaster spending. Five ASCE standards and three MOPs that apply to the FEMA-BRIC Program are featured in the package on ASCE AMPLIFY.

ASCE's most widely used building standard across the nation and around the globe, ASCE/SEI 7-22: Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures, is included in the FEMA-BRIC subscription package.

In addition to ASCE/SEI 7-22, 7-16, and 7-10, the ASCE

AMPLIFY FEMA-BRIC subscription package includes the following standards and MOPs:

- ASCE/SEI 8-22 and 8-02: Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Stainless Steel Structural Members;
- ASCE/SEI 24-24 and 24-14: Flood Resistant Design and Construction;
- ASCE/SEI 41-23 and 41-17: Seismic Evaluation and Retrofit of Existing Buildings;
- ASCE/SEI 49-21 and 49-12: Wind Tunnel Testing for Buildings and Other Structures;
- ASCE/COS 73-23: Standard Practice for Sustainable Infrastructure;
- ASCE MOP 144: Hazard-Resilient Infrastructure: Analysis and Design;
- ASCE MOP 140: Climate-Resilient Infrastructure: Adaptive Design and Risk Management; and
- ASCE MOP 74: Guidelines for Electrical Transmission Line Structural Loading.

The FEMA-BRIC standards and MOPs in ASCE

AMPLIFY can be accessed at amplify.asce.org/fema-bric.

University of Missouri, as Vice President, previously Treasurer; **Lori A. Simpson**, LANGAN, as Treasurer, previously Secretary; and the newest member of the Executive Committee, **Morgan NeSmith**, Berkel & Company Contractors, Inc., as Secretary. **Gianfranco Di Cicco**, GD Consulting LLC, continues as Immediate Past President.

NeSmith, a Director of Engineering at Berkel & Company Contractors, Inc., is the incoming Secretary after serving as a Trustee since 2019. NeSmith received his bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA. He has over 20 years of experience in geotechnical contracting and consulting. NeSmith has authored and co-authored numerous papers on deep foundations and ground improvement systems. He also regularly speaks to companies, universities, and professional organizations on these topics on behalf of Berkel as well as DFI. He is Immediate Past Chair of the DFI Augered Cast-in-Place and Drilled Displacement Pile Committee and currently serves as the Committee's Trustee Liaison.

### **DFI Board of Trustees Elects New Officers for 2025**

The Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) Board of Trustees has elected a new Executive Committee starting in 2025.

**Incoming DFI President James** Johnson, who served as DFI Vice President from 2023-2024, is President of Condon-Johnson & Associates. He attended the University of California, Davis, Davis, CA, USA, and received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1979. He joined Kiewit Corporation, a construction and engineering organization based out of northern California that was at the time led by Byrl Williams (DFI president from 1997-1998). There he met Michael Condon, and the pair joined Kulchin & Associates, a small earth retention contractor specializing in soil nailing in 1985. In 1987, they purchased control of the organization and it was renamed Condon-Johnson & Associates. Johnson became President of Condon-Johnson in 2018.

Serving with Johnson as Officers of the DFI Board of Trustees are **Erik Loehr**,

