News

ACI Launches Search for Next Executive Vice President

In anticipation of the retirement of ACI Executive Vice President Ron Burg, ACI and executive search firm Russell Reynolds Associates have released the position specifications for the association's next Executive Vice President.

Russell Reynolds Associates is a global leadership advisory and search firm that works across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, focusing on recruiting transformational leaders who can meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. The firm is working under the guidance of an ACI search committee comprising representatives from across the ACI volunteer leadership spectrum and chaired by ACI Past President Bill Rushing.

Interested applicants are encouraged to send a confidential letter of interest and resume to ACIEVP@russellreynolds.com. For more information, including a full job description, visit **www.concrete.org/aboutaci/jobopeningsataci.aspx**.

ACI Announces International Partnership with GCCA

While exhibiting and participating in PROCEMCO in Cartagena, Colombia, ACI and the Global Cement and Concrete Association (GCCA) formalized their cooperative efforts by signing an International Partnership Agreement (IPA). This new agreement formalizes the desire to collaboratively develop and disseminate information on concrete, concrete structures, and especially concrete sustainability.

ACI Past President Randy Poston and Bernie Pekor, ACI Director of International Business Development, look on as Andrew Minson, GCCA Director of Concrete and Sustainable Construction, signs the International Partnership Agreement

GCCA is the key driver of sustainability in the cement and concrete industry, working toward the goal of carbon-neutral concrete. Representing 80% of global production outside of China, as well as key Chinese producers such as CNBM, the GCCA launched its 2050 Net Zero Roadmap in 2021, outlining the levers, milestones, and pathways to achieve a decarbonized industry. This includes new technologies, innovations, and importantly—improving efficiency in design and construction. Here, the contribution of design and construction professionals to delivering carbon reductions through concrete projects is crucial. This partnership will support the dissemination of best practices to enable the specification of sustainable concrete and design of lower carbon concrete elements and structures.

ACI Announces New Building Officials Webinar Series

ACI launched a new series of webinars, the ACI Building Officials Webinar Series, in November 2022. The webinar series will continue throughout 2023, and it will focus on topics that have been approved by the International Code Council (ICC) for professional development training for building officials.

The first webinar in the series, "Fundamentals of Quality Concrete," covers the basic materials used in concrete and the essentials required to design and control concrete mixtures for a wide variety of applications and exposures. Details on additional presentations in the series will be released in the coming months. For more information and to register for the ACI Building Officials Webinar Series, visit **www.concrete.org**.

NEU Announces Membership Growth

NEU: An ACI Center of Excellence for Carbon Neutral Concrete is seeing rapid growth in membership. Joining as Sustaining Members of NEU are Breakthrough Energy and Meta. Founded by Bill Gates, Breakthrough Energy is dedicated to helping humanity avoid a climate disaster. Through investment vehicles, philanthropic programs, policy advocacy, and other activities, Breakthrough Energy is committed to scaling the technologies the world needs to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

Meta, the parent company of Facebook, recognizes the urgency of climate change and continues to build on more than 10 years of work to minimize its impact on the environment. Since 2020, Meta's global operations have been supported by 100% renewable energy and achieved net-zero greenhouse gas emissions.

Additionally, Baker Concrete Construction has joined as a Supporting Member. Affiliate Members include Advancing Organizational Excellence (AOE), ACI Foundation, Atlantis Holdings Ltd. d.b.a. AtlantisFiber™, Ash Grove Cement/CRH, CeEntek, Stone Coat Global, Ozinga, CarbonBuilt, and Lehigh Hanson. ACI is a founding member.

In addition to its membership, NEU will be working closely with other allied organizations. Memorandums of understanding have been signed with ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-EC), Federación Interamericana del Cemento (FICEM), ASTM International, and National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA), with other strategic alliances also in the works.

NEx and ICC-ES Sign Allied Organization Memorandum of Understanding

NEx: An ACI Center of Excellence for Nonmetallic Building Materials welcomed ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) as a new Allied Organization. ICC-ES is the leading evaluation service for innovative building materials, components, and systems.

In addition, NEx has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with ICC-ES to create a partnership in advancing the use of nonmetallic building materials. The agreement will create a platform for more collaborations to advance the sustainability, quality, and integrity of nonmetallic building materials, supporting NEx's vision to provide the industry with better materials and solutions and accelerate adoption of nonmetallics in codes and standards.

The signing ceremony was held in Brea, CA, USA, on October 20, 2022. It was attended by ICC-ES President, Shahin Moinian; ICC-ES Vice President of Marketing, Anna Mullen; ICC-ES Senior Staff Engineer, Mahmut Ekenel; Aramco Nonmetallic PMO and NEx President, Waleed Al-Otaibi; NEx Board Director, Riyadh Shiban; NEx Executive Director, Jerzy Z. Zemajtis; and ACI/Aramco Liaison, Gusai AlAithan.

Partnership Aims to Manufacture Concrete That Captures Carbon Emissions

ACI member Maria Konsta-Gdoutos, a University of Texas at Arlington civil engineering professor and Associate Director of the Center for Advanced Construction Materials (CACM), is leading an international effort to decarbonize concrete production and promote its use as a renewable energy generator.

"We will pioneer TE-CO2NCRETE, a thermoelectric carbon-neutral concrete, that will exhibit a high carbon dioxide uptake potential and storage capacity," Konsta-Gdoutos said. "Engineering the nanostructure of concrete also will allow the material to capture thermal energy from the surroundings and convert it into usable electrical energy, leading to the development of a novel technology for renewable electricity and a higher efficiency power source."

A $1.5 million National Science Foundation grant is supporting this effort, which also involves another U.S. university and five European institutions. The U.S. partner is the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Concrete Sustainability and Resilience Center, which is known for experimental research on design, multiscale characterization, and implementation of sustainable multifunctional concrete using carbon-based waste byproducts and graphene-based nanomaterials. International partners include the French National Center for Scientific Research, which is an expert on atomistic simulation techniques useful in renewable energy research; the Technical Universities in Dresden and Berlin, Germany; and the Politecnico di Torino in Torino, Italy.

The aim of the partnership is to advance technological know-how for net-zero carbon concrete at a global scale, picking up the pace set by the Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 52% by 2030.

ASCC's Terry Fricks Floor Excellence Awards Call for Entries

The American Society of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) is accepting entries for its first annual Terry Fricks Floor Excellence Awards. This ASCC awards program recognizes outstanding floor installations around the world. Entrants may submit projects in the following categories:

- Commercial/Retail—slab-on-ground, suspended slab – shored, and suspended slab – unshored;
- Industrial—slab-on-ground, suspended slab – shored, suspended slab – unshored, and high-tolerance (F_{min}); and
- Institutional—slab-on-ground, suspended slab – shored, and suspended slab – unshored.

A panel of industry professionals will judge the entries. Submitted projects will be reviewed on the following criteria: submitted layout, F-number floor run map and data for overall project, type and layout of reinforcement, curl (timeframe and number of measurements), aesthetics – aggregate shadowing/surface gloss, percentage of grinding and number of placements requiring grinding (defined traffic floors only), and safety.

Entries are due by April 1, 2023. For more information on this and other awards programs, visit **https://ascconline.org/About/Awards**.

ICC Charts Path to Support Building Decarbonization Efforts

At its September meeting, the International Code Council (ICC) Board of Directors approved "Decarbonization of The Built Environment: Solutions from the International Code Council." The report recognizes the significant impact of buildings on the environment and the need for a coordinated set of solutions to support the achievement of energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals set by governments.

The report also calls for expanded activities that support a coordinated approach across the International Codes (I-Codes), standards, and other solutions. As part of the process outlined within the ICC's energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction framework, "Leading the Way to Energy Efficiency: A Path Forward on Energy and Sustainability to Confront a Changing Climate," ICC is undertaking an internal road mapping effort and will leverage its Energy and Carbon Advisory Council and a to-be-formed Ad Hoc Committee on Decarbonization to make recommendations on the organization and format of a comprehensive approach.

Through existing codes, standards, and other solutions, ICC has made contributions to reducing the climate impacts of buildings:

- The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) has improved energy savings by nearly 40% since 2006 and provided over 700 million metric tons (772 million tons) of carbon reduction since the 2009 edition. Zero energy appendices appear in the 2021 edition and the 2024 and future editions will deliver even more energy savings.
- The hazard resistance provisions of the codes reduce the need for rebuilding, saving 1.5 million metric tons (1.65 million tons) of GHG emissions annually.
- The International Green Construction Code (IgCC) includes requirements for measuring the climate impacts of materials through environmental product declarations (EPDs) and life-cycle analyses.
- Off-site construction standards (ICC/MBI Standards 1200 and 1205) support more efficient construction processes.

The ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) is an EPD program operator and will continue to assist manufacturers and

jurisdictions in determining the impacts of building materials.

For more information and to monitor progress on activities outlined in the document, visit **www.iccsafe.org/energy**.

In Remembrance

ACI Honorary Member **William S. Phelan Sr.** passed away on October 25, 2022, at the age of 87, in Keansburg, NJ, USA.

He received his BS in civil engineering from the University of Detroit, Detroit, MI, USA. He took his first job at Turner Construction and then began his 40-year career at The Euclid Chemical Company, working his way up to Senior Vice President of Marketing and Technical Services.

An ACI member since 1962, a Fellow since 1987, and named an Honorary Member of ACI, Phelan served as Chair of ACI Committees 212, Chemical Admixtures, and 302, Construction of Concrete Floors, and was a past member of ACI Committees 117, Tolerances; 308, Curing Concrete; and the ACI Strategic Development Council Executive Committee. He was also a past member of ASTM International Committees C09.22, Materials Applied to New Concrete Surfaces; C09.23, Chemical Admixtures; and C09.47, Self-Consolidating Concrete.

Phelan received numerous awards during his career, including the Samuel A. Face Jr. Award presented by the Face Companies for outstanding accomplishments in and contributions to the art and science of high-quality horizontal concrete construction in 2005 and the Distinguished Leaders of the Industry from The Concrete Industry Board, Inc., in 2007. During the CANMET-ACI International Conference in 2006, he was honored for sustained and outstanding contributions in the general area of chemical admixtures. He has presented several seminars at World of Concrete over the years and published numerous articles in *Concrete International*, *Concrete Construction*, and *Structure* magazine.