

ACI Conference Brings Together Middle East Concrete Community

ACI, in conjunction with the ACI Saudi Arabia Chapter, hosted the ACI Concrete Conference on Codes, Standards, and Best Practices, November 28-29, 2023, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Organized in collaboration with the Saudi Building Code National Committee (SBCNC) and Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO), the conference brought together more than 200 industry professionals to exchange experiences and discuss innovative and emerging technologies in concrete.

The conference was highlighted by a welcome address from His Excellency Saad Bin Othman Alkasabi, Governor, SASO; and Chairman, SBCNC. Presentation topics focused on innovative niche construction methods, new products, codes and standards, and research that stretch the imagination on the various uses of concrete. ACI's Centers of Excellence also hosted special sessions highlighting available resources on nonmetallic building materials, carbon-neutral concrete and sustainability, and construction productivity.

ACI Committee 332 Invitation

ACI Committee 332, Residential Concrete Work, is a technical and code-writing committee oriented toward sound engineering that is based upon established design approaches with simplified engineering procedures in mind. The Committee maintains the publication "Code Requirements for Residential Concrete." Currently working to finalize the 2024 version of this code, their focus is addressing and providing solutions for design and construction of residential concrete members that expand the single resource for all methods and applications. The future of this code is to provide definitive design procedures that meet the needs of design engineers.

Committee leadership is seeking interested applicants and leadership for subcommittee work on structural foundation systems, such as pier-and-beam, conventionally reinforced slabs-on-ground, elevated slabs, and structural footings; and for subcommittee work on above-grade concrete walls. There are other subcommittees of this code committee always looking for invested applicants as well. Applicants interested should have a sound background in engineering methods for the design of concrete foundations or residential concrete walls, ACI 318 and other design methods, and basic knowledge of International Residential Code requirements. Understanding of ACI code processes is advantageous but not required.

Interested parties can apply online through the ACI Committee application form at www.concrete.org/committees/joinacommittee.aspx; contact ACI Committee 332 Chair Jerry Coombs at jcoombs@coombsengineering.com.

com; or attend one of the meetings scheduled for the ACI Concrete Conventions – Spring 2024 in New Orleans, LA, USA, or Fall 2024 in Philadelphia, PA, USA.

SIUE Names Engineering Classroom in Honor of Luke Snell

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's (SIUE) School of Engineering (SOE) celebrated a classroom dedication in 2023 recognizing Luke Snell, the Founding Chair of the Department of Construction. ACI Honorary Member Snell contributed 100,000 USD to the Department of Construction in the SOE.

"SIUE had a lot of faith in me and supported me with a lot of research possibilities when I was coming there to start the program," said Snell. "This is a way of saying thank you for supporting me. I had several graduate students working with me on projects, and the University supported a lot of the travel for the students. SIUE became a well-known group because of their successes. That got me well known in my professional societies."

Snell's endowment will enhance concrete-related education and student activities in the Department of Construction in the SOE. He retired from SIUE in 2002 and received the ranking of professor emeritus.

Throughout his SIUE teaching career, he integrated classroom learning with students competing in numerous ACI competitions. Snell is responsible for previous contributions to the Department of Construction, like his 15,000 USD donation to support the ACI SIUE Student Chapter.



From left: Denise Cobb, SIUE Provost; Seth Walker, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement; Luke Snell; Billie Snell; Narayan Bodapati; Cem Karacal, Dean of SOE; Lisa Smith, SOE Director of Development; Chris Gordon, Associate Dean of SOE; John Cabage, Associate Professor in the Department of Construction (photo courtesy of Howard Ash, SIUE)

“Professor Snell started the ACI club at SIUE in 1980,” said John Cabage, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Construction. “That same year he helped six students compete in a concrete cube competition. That team won the competition. The department has been very successful at ACI competitions over the years as demonstrated by the two full display cases in the hallway around the corner.”

Snell’s work also extends beyond SIUE to extensive consulting on construction and concrete problems throughout the United States and Saudi Arabia. He has also written more than 150 articles covering methodology of measuring and improving concrete construction techniques. He has been instrumental in starting concrete certification programs in China, India, Taiwan, Mongolia, and Saudi Arabia.

This was originally published at www.siu.edu/news/2023/09/SIUENamesEngineeringClassroominHonorofLeadingConcreteMaterialsExpert.shtml.

NPCA Elects New Chair and Board Members

The National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA) elected **Bill Bundschuh** as Chair of the Board. Bundschuh is President and Owner of Pretech Corporation in Kansas City, KS, USA. He has worked in the precast industry for over 30 years.

Also elected to a 1-year term officer position was **Kevin Camp**, Chair-Elect, Camp Precast Concrete Products, Milton, VT, USA; and **Asher Kazmann**, Secretary/Treasurer, Locke Solutions, Houston, TX, USA.

Serving a 3-year term, NPCA membership elected four individuals to NPCA’s Board of Directors: **Jason Lambert**, Rinker Materials, Winter Haven, FL, USA; **Allen Lee**, Lee’s Precast Concrete, Aberdeen, MS, USA; **Rick Terrill**, USF Fabrication, Hialeah, FL; and **Jim Tully**, DECAST Limited, Utopia, ON, Canada.

CIM Program Announces Donations for its 2024 Auction at World of Concrete

The Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program—a business intensive program that awards students with a 4-year BS in concrete industry management—announced recent donations to its annual auction including: a JMP-60 concrete pump and chassis, donated by Alliance Concrete Pumps, Papé Kenworth, and Kenworth Truck Company; and a S-485 Laser Screed®, donated by Somero Enterprises, Inc.

The annual auction will be held January 24, 2024, in the North Hall Room N262 of the Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV, USA. The silent auction will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. PST, and the live auction begins at 1 p.m. PST. For a full list of items, visit www.concretedegree.com/auction.

In Remembrance



Hoff

ACI Honorary Member **George Charles Hoff Sr.** passed away November 30, 2023, at the age of 85. Becoming an ACI member in 1962, he served on many ACI committees, and was elected ACI President for 1993-1994. He also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Concrete Research and Education Foundation (ConREF) and functioned as Chair from 1995-1997.

He received his BSc in civil engineering and MSc in theoretical and applied mechanics from the University of Illinois, and a Doctor of Engineering in civil engineering from Texas A&M University. He was a licensed professional engineer in Mississippi.

In 1961, he joined the Cook County Highway Department as a bridge designer and worked on the early bridges for the expressway system in the Chicago, IL, USA area. In 1962, he was conscripted into the U.S. Army and assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station (WES), Vicksburg, MS, USA, as a Research Civil Engineer in the Corps Concrete Laboratory. Upon completing his military obligation, he remained as a civilian engineer at WES, working with Bryant Mather, Robert Philleo, and Terrance Holland, all of whom became ACI Presidents. During his tenure there, he also gained his advanced degrees. Much of Hoff’s work at WES dealt with emerging technologies of the time, such as fiber-reinforced concrete, polymer concretes, low-density and cellular concretes, expansive cement concretes, and the rapid repair of bomb-damaged runways.

In 1982, Hoff joined Mobil Research and Development Corporation (MRDC), Dallas, TX, USA, as a Senior Structural Engineer and Chief Concrete Technologist, where he was responsible for concrete work that included offshore and other specialized structures. He sponsored and conducted extensive research into high-strength/high-performance concrete (HS/HPC), high-strength lightweight concrete, ice-loading of structures, steel-concrete composite structural elements, fire resistance of HS/HPC, and the durability of marine concretes. After his retirement, he continued to operate a consultancy on engineering and construction projects from his home.

Hoff was made an honorary life-member of the National Society of Professional Engineers and is recognized for authoring or co-authoring over 170 papers and three books on concrete materials and construction. Hoff received numerous professional awards and honors during his career, including the 1983 ACI Henry L. Kennedey Award, 1985 ACI Wason Medal for Materials Research, 1987 ACI Chapter

Activities Award, and 1995 ACI Cedric Willson Lightweight Aggregate Concrete Award and Wason Medal for Most Meritorious Paper.

He was a member of the Fédération internationale de la précontrainte where he served as Chair of Commission 10 on Construction. He was also a member of ASCE's Reinforced Concrete Research Council and ASCE's Construction Institute where he served as Director of the Materials Directorate and on the Board of Advisors of the Construction Industry Institute. And he was a member of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. He was awarded Special Recognition as a Distinguished Graduate from Texas A&M Department of Civil Engineering in 2006, and Special Recognition as a Distinguished Alumni at University of Illinois in 2007.



Werner

ACI staff member **Kevin Werner** passed away on October 27, 2023, at the age of 59. Werner was the ACI Warehouse and Facilities Manager and served at ACI for nearly 40 years. Some of his responsibilities included overseeing warehouse activities and building maintenance, providing inventory control, and assisting in building security needs.

Werner was a longtime member and Secretary for the Board of Directors of the Detroit Theater Organ Society, also known as The Senate Theater of Detroit, MI, USA. He also served as a member of the Motor City Theatre Organ Society, Redford Theatre, and American Theatre Organ Society. He was an avid master gardener.

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