

ACI Ambassador Speaker Program

To engage the concrete community globally, one of the tools ACI uses is the ACI Ambassador Speaker Program. This program promotes ACI technical expertise and creates, strengthens, and solidifies ACI relations with international organizations (for example, chapters, allied organizations, and technical societies).

This program serves two audiences:

Expert speakers

The ACI Ambassador Speaker Program enables expert speakers from ACI membership to represent ACI and deliver a keynote presentation at international concrete-related conferences and symposiums. For ACI members interested in future roles as an ACI Ambassador Speaker, send your résumé, bio, and a list of expertise areas to Bernie Pekor, ACI Director of International Affairs, at bernie.pekor@concrete.org. (Note: Approved Ambassador Speakers may be eligible to receive reimbursement for qualified travel expenses up to 6000 USD.)

Conference organizers

For those interested in requesting an ACI Ambassador Speaker to make a keynote presentation for their concrete-related conference, symposium, or other event, visit www.concrete.org/newsandevents/ambassadorspeakerprogram to complete an application. For additional information on the ACI Ambassador Speaker Program, contact Bernie Pekor.

ACI Ambassador Speakers

Over the life of the ACI Ambassador Speaker Program, there have been more than 100 Ambassadors. ACI typically funds 10 to 15 ACI Ambassador Speakers per year.

Regions where ACI Ambassador Speakers have been featured include:

- Asia—31%;
- Latin America—30%;
- Europe—16%;
- Africa—11%;
- Middle East—6%; and
- Australia/New Zealand—6%.

ACI Ambassador Speaker at HAKI Annual Conference

The Indonesian concrete design standard, SNI 2847:2019, was developed by adopting in major part ACI CODE-318M-14, which was updated to ACI CODE-318M-19 and is currently being updated to ACI CODE-318M-25. As there are



John Wallace, FACI, presenting at the HAKI Annual Conference 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia

significant changes in the seismic provisions, the SNI working committee proposed to HAKI (Indonesian Society of Civil and Structural Engineers) that they invite an expert speaker from ACI to deliver a keynote presentation on the changes and background of ACI CODE-318 at the HAKI Annual Conference 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

HAKI established communication with Professor John Wallace, FACI, through his student at the University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, USA, about the possibility of Wallace giving a keynote presentation and lecture at the HAKI Annual Conference. HAKI simultaneously communicated with Allied Organization ACI about applying for the ACI Ambassador Speaker Program. The ACI International Speakers Committee approved Wallace to be the ACI Ambassador Speaker for the HAKI Annual Conference, which took place on August 19-21, 2025. Wallace's presence helped make the HAKI Annual Conference a successful event. More than 550 participants attended the keynote session and the short course.

Although Wallace's short course was scheduled in the late afternoon, most of the participants stayed until the end of his lecture. Wallace's keynote presentation and lecture provided a better understanding of ACI CODE-318's development, especially related to the seismic design of a structural wall. This will help the SNI working committee in updating SNI 2847. The SNI working committee hopes to complete the update next year.

"We would like to thank ACI for all the support, particularly the great contribution of sponsoring the ACI Ambassador Speaker for the HAKI Annual Conference 2025," said Iswandi Imran, HAKI Chairman.