



December 2019

[Engineering Excellence Awards: Call for Sponsors](#)

[A/E/C Project Management Bootcamp partnered with PSMJ – February 11-12](#)

[ACEC/MN Basketball Tournament – March 7, 2020](#)

[ACEC Retirement Trust Student Loan Debt Solution](#)

[MNSEA Young Member Group Wins Award!](#)

[Toastmasters Speechcraft Program & Management Workshop](#)

[Minnesota's Transportation Conference – Save the Date!](#)

[Save the Date! ACEC/MN Upcoming Events](#)

[News From Around the Membership](#)

Engineering Excellence Awards: Call for Sponsors

Sponsoring the Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) is an excellent opportunity to promote your organization's services and show support for ACEC/MN's biggest event of the year.

As a sponsor, your firm will receive recognition and exposure in a variety of ways before, during, and after the event including:

- Event program and signage
- Framework Client newsletter
- Parameters member newsletter
- Assets, ACEC/MN's Membership Directory distributed to members and several member client groups (nearly 3,000 engineers and purchasers of engineering services)
- ACEC/MN website
- Special recognition during the awards presentation

Click [here](#) for the sponsorship breakdown, which includes sponsorship levels and benefits, and to see last year's sponsors. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of this event, please complete the sponsorship breakdown form and return it to Kristine Scott by Monday, December 16, 2019.

A/E/C Project Management Bootcamp partnered with PSMJ – February 11-12, 2019

This two-day workshop is GUARANTEED to give you proven skills to improve project delivery, financial performance, and client satisfaction.

Attendees will learn how to:

- Master the 11 must-use parts of an ironclad project schedule
- Avoid the 5 budget busters that put projects in a financial hole
- Negotiate win-win subcontractor agreements
- Seize opportunities for new revenue through upselling and cross-selling
- Learn the PM "wow!" factors that turn clients into evangelists for your firm
- Spot—and fix—issues before they become major problems
- AND MUCH MORE!

This two-day bootcamp will feature early-bird pricing for those who register before December 13, 2019.

- \$1,600 per person for ACEC/MN members
- \$1,900 per person for non-members

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: January 17, 2020

- \$1,700 per person for ACEC/MN members

- \$2,000 per person for non-members

To register, please [visit our website](#).

Tuesday, February 11 and Wednesday, February 12, 2019

[Marriott Minneapolis West](#)

DAY ONE: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

DAY TWO: 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

[For more information, including the event brochure and testimonials, click here.](#)

ACEC/MN Basketball Tournament – March 7, 2020

The annual ACEC/MN basketball tournament will take place on Saturday, March 7 at Bloomington Kennedy High School. We are expecting another great turnout this year! Trophies will be awarded to the top teams and profits from the tournament go to the ACEC/MN scholarship fund. If your firm is interested in participating, please contact Justin Schmidt at justinsc@bolton-menk.com. The deadline to sign up is February 28, 2020.

ACEC Retirement Trust Student Loan Debt Solution & Affiliate Announcement

According to the Federal Reserve, there are \$1.5 trillion in outstanding student loans nationally,¹ and every other person carrying student debt delayed contributions to their 401(k).²

Has your organization considered the impact that student loan debt will have on the employee performance and wellbeing? Many of your new and current employees are likely struggling to pay down student debt, resulting in financial stress and delayed retirement savings. What if you could help remove the barrier of student loan debt for your employees?

ACEC Retirement Trust has a solution. The ACEC Retirement Trust has recently introduced an innovative new benefit to assist your employees, the ACEC Retirement Trust Student Debt Solution provided through ACEC RT and Empower Retirement.

Key features of the Student Loan Program include:

- Student loan repayment assistance or retirement plan contribution: Employers can make payments directly to employees' retirement savings plan based on their employees' payments on their student loan debt.
- "Next dollar" evaluation: Employees who are carrying student loan debt have access to user-friendly evaluation tools that makes a recommendation on how individuals can utilize the 'next dollar' available.
- Loan analysis: Depending on the student's existing loan debt, employees can receive individualized information about loan forgiveness programs and other options, such as refinancing.

For more information, please reach out to Lydia.Zabrycki@acecrteducation.com, call (559) 284-0370, or visit the new ACEC RT website at www.acecrt.com.

¹https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/HIST/cc_hist_memo_levels.html

²American Institute of CPAs, 2016

MNSEA Young Member Group Wins a National Award!



Congratulations to the MNSEA Young Member Group (YMG) for receiving the National Council of Structural Engineers Associations' (NCSEA) Young Member of the Year Award for providing benefit to their young members, member organizations, and communities!

Pictured left to right: Ricky Kirchner of BKBM (YMG Chair) & Greg McCool of Ericksen Roed & Associates (MNSEA President).

Toastmasters Speechcraft Program & Management Workshop

Toastmasters Speechcraft Program Begins January 21, 2019

Do you have development goals? Are you seeking confidence in public speaking or considering a New Year's resolution? Toastmasters offers you a safe-to-practice environment to meet your public speaking goals. Speechcraft is a series of course sessions that gives you a kick start in Toastmasters. Join Speechcraft for \$75, which includes: club membership, a mentor, lunch during each session, and valuable public speaking practice.

Contact: Steve Gartner, President (smgartner5@gmail.com or 763-258-3901)

Dates beginning in 2020:

- January 21
- February 4
- February 18
- March 3
- March 17
- March 31

Improving Your Management Skills is a workshop put together by Toastmasters International. David Rasmussen of the Eloquent Engineers Toastmasters will lead the seminar.

Date: Tuesday, January 14 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Cost: \$10 donation (includes light lunch)

Location: Ridgedale Library (Room 172)

[Register online.](#)

Minnesota's Transportation Conference – Save the Date!

Don't forget to mark your calendars now for next year's event. Minnesota's Transportation Conference will be held March 3-4, 2020, at the Saint Paul RiverCentre.

Visit the [event website](#) for more information.

Save the Date! Upcoming ACEC/MN Events

- December 13: [Brown Bag with Tire Derived Aggregate \(TDA\)](#)
- December 18: [MnDOT – ACEC/MN Partnership Morning Meeting](#)
- January 10: [Brown Bag with Veit](#)
- January 14: [Improving Your Management Skills](#) (Eloquent Engineers Toastmasters workshop)
- January 15: [Leadership Breakfast with Minnesota Executive Panel](#)
- January 24: [Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet](#)
- January 27: [Women In Engineering: Overcoming the Imposter Syndrome](#)
- February 11-12: [A/E/C Project Management Bootcamp partnered with PSMJ](#)

News From the Membership

Chris Hartnett, PE, LEED AP joined **American Engineering Testing, Inc.**'s Building Technology Group.

Barr Engineering Co. has acquired **High Energy Inc.**, a Denver-based consulting firm providing electrical, civil, and structural engineering services for electric utility and associated utility clients.

Burns & McDonnell Engineers-Consultants is excited to announce the launch of **1898 & Co.**, a business, technology and security solutions company with the Burns & McDonnell family.

DeWitt LLP announced that attorneys **Alex W. Johnson** and **Nathan J. Nelson** joined its Minneapolis office in the Business and Estate Planning practice areas, and attorneys **Eric H. Chadwick** and **Bradley J. Thorson** joined its expanding Intellectual Property practice group in its Minneapolis office.

LHB, Inc. announced the following asset purchases: 1) the asset purchase of **NREC** to offer expanded services to pipeline, industrial and commercial clients, and 2) the asset purchase of **Cermak Rhoades Architects (CRA)**.

ISG made the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's "Fast 50 List" for being 22nd of the 50 fastest-growing privately held companies by revenue growth.

Sambatek, Inc. is pleased to announce the company has graduated from the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program under the Minnesota Unified Certification Program. Sambatek also announced the addition of **Dan Mattison** to their Transportation Services group as Client Service Manager.

SRF Consulting Group, Inc. has named **Todd Polum** their newest president. Todd will share responsibilities with **David Montebello, PE** who will continue to serve as CEO and chairman of SRF's board of directors.

Stantec is pleased to announce that **Patrick Haney, PE** has joined the firm in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as water delivery leader for the Midwest.

TKDA announced that **Douglas W. Fischer, PE** has joined the firm and will serve as vice president of the Municipal Division and **Justin W. Hicks, PE** has joined the firm's Rail Division.

If you have an announcement you'd like to see included in the next Parameters newsletter, please contact:
Kristine Scott, Kristine@acecmn.org P: 952-593-533 F: 952-593-5552