

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Mississippi

The Voice of Mississippi's Engineering Industry.

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ACEC/MS Welcomes New Executive Director Craig Carter

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Mississippi (ACEC-MS) has announced Wiley "Craig" Carter as its new Executive Director. During his 33-year career in marketing and public relations, Carter has specialized in building relationships, designing marketing strategies and navigating politics in Mississippi.

"I was attracted to the position because of the organization's professionalism which has been lead so wonderfully by Judy Adams for the past 24 years, and ACEC's ability to successfully protect and enhance the engineering profession," Carter said. "I feel so blessed and honored, and have a deep sense of gratitude to be chosen for such a challenging position. ACEC offers an exciting opportunity for me to apply the knowledge I've gained over the years to the organization's future endeavors in Mississippi."

Prior to joining ACES-MS, Carter served as Assistant to Commissioner Dick Hall, chair of the Mississippi Transportation Commission. He owned Carter Consulting, a full-service, integrated marketing agency, and was the Marketing Director at Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc. Carter worked on the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, Ga., and has worked on various political campaigns. He served eight years on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., as Deputy Director of Radio Services at the Republican

National Committee, Field Coordinator at the National Republican Senatorial Committee and Doorkeeper at the Office of the U.S. Senate Sergeant-at-Arms.



Carter is a graduate of Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications. He is a resident of Gluckstadt and has two children, Chloe, 14, and Wiley, 11. He and his family are members of Pinelake Church in Gluckstadt. He enjoys watching his children participate in sports, attending Mississippi State University sporting events and being the play-by-play announcer for Germantown High School's live football broadcasts.

**Congratulations to this Year's 2017
Teddy Roosevelt Award Winner
*Larry A. Cooley, P.E.***

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

EEA Judging—January 11th and 12th

ACEC/MS Scholarship Deadline—February 1st

Capitol Day—February 20th

Winter Meeting—March 8th and 9th

ACEC/MS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Carey Hardin



At the time of this writing the most significant tax legislation in three decades has cleared conference and passed the House. If approved by the Senate and signed by President Trump the new tax law will have a positive impact on the consulting engineering community due to an effort led by ACEC to exempt engineering firms from the definition of service businesses. Engineering firms with pass-through tax structures will qualify for a 20% deduction. Many other professional groups remain excluded from this category.

Thanks to ACEC for a well-conceived and executed plan to provide this significant benefit to a large segment of the engineering community.

That being said the ACEC/MS PAC contributions for 2017 stand at 77 percent of our goal. The amount needed to reach this goal is only \$2,800. If you have not contributed in 2017 or would like to add to your contribution, you may go online to the ACEC/PAC website and select *Contribute Today*. Each \$100 donated will receive a ticket for a drawing to be held on December 29th for \$2,000/\$1,000/\$500 prizes.

The previous newsletter contained an announcement of the retirement of Judy Adams, our ACEC/MS Executive Director for the past 23+ years. Judy has been a tireless advocate for the consulting engineering community in Mississippi and leaves ACEC/MS a strong and vibrant organization. During Judy's tenure ACEC/MS has doubled in membership and become a credible and respected voice for the engineering community in the state capital. Judy has treated ACEC/MS and its member firms as extended family and looked out for the interests of the engineering community with constant diligence.

For those of you that were unable to attend Judy's retirement reception, the outpouring of gratitude, respect and appreciation for a job well done was truly special. Thanks to all who had a part in arranging and supporting the event.

Please join me in a hardy "Welcome Aboard" to Craig Carter, our incoming Executive Director. As you can see from the lead article of this newsletter, he is no stranger to the consulting engineering community and has extensive experience at the highest levels of state government. January will be a transitional month as Craig and Judy work to transfer 23 years of institutional knowledge as seamlessly as possible. We are delighted to have Jessica Gosa continue in her position of Office Manager.

Thank you to the current Officers, Board of Directors and past presidents Scott Burge, Jeff Dungan and Ron Cassada for many miles of travel and hours of work contributed in this Executive Director transition. With the foundation provided by 23 years of Judy's hard work and the capable team currently in place, the future of ACEC/MS is in good hands.

New Affiliate Member

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Ridgeland, MS 39157

Principal: Anthony Fairley

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Ridgeland, MS 39157

Principal(s): Laura D. Heusel; Trudy D. Fisher



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Fall Fling 2017

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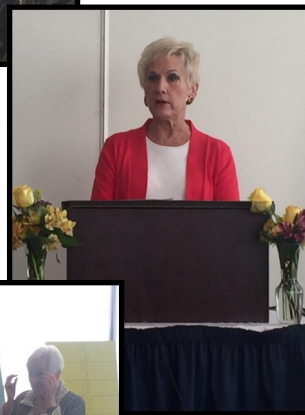
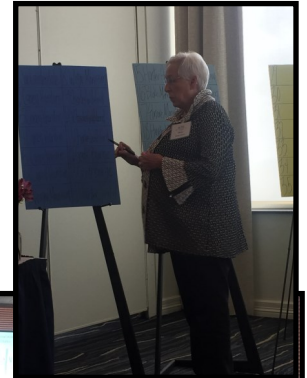
Buchart Horn, Inc.—Break Sponsor

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ACEC/MS Fellows

(Pictured from left: Ed Dedeaux, Allen & Hoshall; Stanley Spradling, Calvert-Spradling Engineering, Inc.; Judy Adams, Executive Director and Hayden Kaiser, Jr., Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions, LLC).



ACEC PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

General

- ACEC's recent leadership orientation sessions in Washington, D.C. – attended by 66 MO officers from 31 states – received high ratings, reflecting the value of the program and the strength of the Council moving forward.
- Nine national awards were won by *Engineering Inc.* and *Last Word* last week – 2017 MARCOM Awards – for excellence in communications.

Approved a Minuteman Fund grant for ACEC/California to fight efforts to repeal *The Road Repair and Accountability Act*, a newly enacted state program which devotes \$54 billion over the next decade for transportation improvements.

Government Advocacy

- Continued to wage aggressive lobbying and grassroots efforts to improve the treatment of engineering "passthrough" businesses in the House and Senate tax reform bills; 4,500 contacts with lawmakers have been generated through ACEC's Action Alerts.
 - Opposed the elimination of Private Activity Bonds in the House-passed tax reform bill; and ensured their inclusion in the Senate bill.
 - Worked with industry allies to successfully eliminate "blacklisting" language from the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act which sought to reinstate a reporting mandate on firms working for DOD clients similar to the rule that was repealed by Congress earlier this year.
 - Secured a positive decision from the Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors after providing guidance on national QBS law and policy and encouraging the Board to maintain a strong standard when reviewing compliance on local projects.
 - Submitted recommendations to the General Services Administration (GSA) for improving the federal SF-330 Form (Architect/Engineer Qualifications).
 - Helped moderate a panel discussion for the Environmental Business International conference on climate change adaptation and resiliency that featured participation from the U.S. Conference of Mayors and member firms.
 - Arizona, Connecticut, Utah, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Nebraska and Nevada all made their ACEC/PAC goals in November, keeping the PAC on its record fundraising pace with over \$960,000 collected year-to-date.
- ACEC/PAC hosted fundraising events for U.S. Representatives Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Roger Marshall (R-KS), and Seth Moulton (D-MA).

Business Resources

- With 28 registered sites, November's most popular online class, *Aligning Compensation and Ownership Transition Strategies*, reviewed various types of cash and equity-based incentives and how each can support ownership objectives.
- Senior Executives Institute (SEI) Class 22 met in San Francisco for their fourth session, and discussed new professional practice models, leading change, adaptive work, HR, and scenario planning.

Released *CASE Tool 4-6: Project Team Coordination and Prioritization Log*, and *CASE Tool 5-5: Project Management Training*, www.acec.org/bookstore.

Coalitions' best sellers for November included CASE's *Guideline Addressing Coordination and Completeness of Structural Construction Documents* and COPS' *Health and Safety Manual 2017*, www.acec.org/bookstore.

Don't miss these webinars in December: *Unleashing the Power of LinkedIn*; *Accounting and Finance Tools for Building a more Resilient and Valuable Firm*; *Embracing an Atmosphere of Accountability*; *Intelligent Infrastructure, Interactive Buildings & Smart Cities*; *How to Get a Prospect on the Phone, Build Trust, and Get a First Meeting*.



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