



May 2018

Why did the Hippie like to stand in front of the electric fan? (See answer at the end of the article.)

Students, students, students – students everywhere. What a fantastic Student Symposium that Texas A&M hosted in April—Whoop! There were approximately 480 students and professionals from Texas and Mexico in attendance, along with 16 civil engineering firm and agency booths at the Career Fair.

One of the highlights of the event for me was offering a student the opportunity to intern at CivilTech Engineering, where I work. I've had the pleasure of getting to know this student through previous years of involvement with the Student Symposium. I wasn't sure who was more excited about the opportunity, me as I presented it or the student as she received it. Either way, this is truly one of the great incentives for participating in the Student Symposium.

While at the Student Symposium, the Texas Section held its mid-year board meeting. It was a reality to check to look at the agenda for the meeting and to realize how much we have going on all over the great state of Texas. I want to thank all those that took time out of their busy schedule to attend the meeting and share their thoughts, ideas, and concerns for the future direction of the Texas Section. It takes more than a village to develop and maintain a successful organization.

At the conclusion of each board meeting, we develop a list of topics for the Section Directors and Board Members to take with them and share with the Branches. Below is the list from the April Board meeting I would like to share with you:

1. **TexASCE Awards & Honors Nominations** due June 1st, to be presented at [CECON](#) 2018 this September.
2. Save the Date for **2018 TexASCE Leadership Development Weekend** (July 20th – 22nd) in Dallas.

Branch, Younger Member Group/Forum, and Institute Chapter representatives will be invited to attend Friday evening through Saturday evening. Section leaders, including incoming officers and committee chairs, will be invited to attend Friday evening through Sunday mid-day.

3. TexASCE Government Affairs Committee needs help to distribute the [2017 Report Card for Texas' Infrastructure](#) during [Infrastructure Week](#) (May 14th – 21st). Email GovernmentAffairs@TexASCE.org to participate.
4. Work with Practitioner Advisors and Branch members to **increase ASCE's student to professional member transition rate**. Ask students to become professional members and invite them to join a Branch committee *before* they graduate. Membership dues the year of baccalaureate graduation and first year after are [\\$50.00](#). This [video](#) helps explain the value of membership after college.

5. TexASCE needs **help identifying advertisers** for the [*Texas Civil Engineer*](#) (TCE) magazine, our quarterly publication. Send suggestions to share@TexASCE.org
6. Every child should **Dream Big**. Donate \$5.00 to send a [Dream Big Educational Toolkit](#) to the school of your choice and *save the date* to watch the film on Netflix starting July 1st.

Answer: It blew his mind. It blew my mind to meet so many bright, enthusiastic, and creative young adults who will enter our market place in the near future. Please put next year's Student Symposium on your calendar. It will be hosted on April 10-13, 2019 by the ASCE Student Chapter at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, with support from the Texas Section and the RGV Branch, in South Padre Island.

Until the next issue – [It will be FUN!!!](#)

Sincerely,

Lawrence D. Goldberg PE

ASCE Texas Section President 2017-2018

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