

THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HIGHWAY ENGINEERS, DELAWARE VALLEY SECTION

2020-21 EDITION #4

Members in Transportation/Transition

Brown Recognized as Young Engineer of the Year



We are proud to report that **Kevin Brown** has been selected as the 2021 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year and was officially recognized and “installed” at the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Opening Ceremony/kickoff dinner on February 18.

Kevin serves as a Transportation Construction Manager in the Construction Services group at Urban Engineers at the firm’s headquarters in Center City. He has been with Urban for twelve years, starting as a co-op student and returning as a full-time engineer following his graduation from Widener University in 2009 with his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He returned to Widener to obtain his Masters degree in Civil/Structural Engineering in 2014. He has been involved in and managed numerous local highway and transportation construction projects and is currently directing the \$40 million I-76 (Schuylkill Expressway) viaduct rehabilitation effort.

Kevin is an active member and supporter of several professional organizations. He serves on the Board of Directors of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Philadelphia Section, the Engineers’ Club of Philadelphia, and the Architecture Construction Engineering (ACE) Mentoring Program, Eastern Pennsylvania in addition. He is also a member of the Construction Management Association of American (CMAA) and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) as well as our Section. He has worked tirelessly on student outreach efforts and increasing the awareness of the engineering professions, particularly to economically-disadvantaged students at all levels. He has additionally made a significant commitment in conjunction with his firm in the establishment of the Kevin Brown Scholarship, a \$5000 award administered in conjunction with the ACE Mentoring Program locally.

Kevin feels fortunate to have a strong support network of family and friends. He is a lifelong Philadelphia resident.

2021 National Conference - Virtual Style...

We are happy to report that this year’s Conference, which is being co-hosted by the East Penn and North East Penn Sections in addition to ours, is now “back on”. It had been planned to be rescheduled, given current restrictions, but will be happening as a virtual event.

It will take place starting **Tuesday, May 25** and will run through **Thursday, May 27**, with various events and sessions. Please visit the website for more information and registration:

<http://2021conference.ashe.pro/>

We hope you will be able to attend. “See” you there!



Meeting Schedule

“Dinner” Meetings

- ◆ March 17
- ◆ April 21

Please see the article on Dinner Meetings for more information on our planned program

Technical Sessions

Technical Sessions will be following a slightly modified schedule for the remainder of this season instead of the planned dates previously provided. More information will be distributed in coming e-mail blasts.

The next Technical Session is tentatively scheduled for April but the date has not yet been finalized. Please watch for separate communication on this.

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Proposed Slate of Officers for 2021-22 Season

It's hard to believe, but it's almost time to "change the guard" again. In accordance with our Section Bylaws, Section President Drew Sirianni has appointed a Nominating Committee to develop and recommend a slate of Officers and Directors for the coming season. The Committee is tasked to provide its recommended slate at least 60 days before our Annual Membership meeting (April 21, our last meeting of this season). The recommended slate is provided below, to comply with the requirement of our Section Bylaws that it be published at least 30 days prior to the Annual Membership meeting. Accordingly, the recommended slate is as follows:

President Corey Hull <i>JMT</i>	First Vice President Nate Parrish <i>HNTB</i>	Second Vice President Isaac Kessler <i>Remington & Vernick Engineers</i>
Treasurer Steve DiSciullo <i>Michael Baker International</i>	Secretary Amber Midgley <i>AECOM</i>	
Immediate Past President Drew Sirianni <i>Pennoni</i>	Regional Director John Caperilla <i>McTish, Kunkel & Associates</i>	Section Executive Bob Wright <i>McMahon Associates</i>

Board of Directors

<i>Term Expires 2022</i> Peter Berthold <i>Penna. Dept. of Transportation</i>	<i>Term Expires 2023</i> Mariah Kerr <i>Traffic Planning & Design</i>	<i>Term Expires 2024</i> Elaine Elbich <i>Penna. Dept. of Transportation</i>
Bruce Masi <i>Gannett Fleming</i>	Mike Mogan <i>Rybinski Engineering</i>	Alexa Egan Harper <i>Gannett Fleming</i>
Sarah McInnes <i>Penna. Dept. of Transportation</i>	Kevin Rice <i>HDR</i>	Bob O'Neill <i>Lotus Environmental</i>
John Quirus <i>HDR</i>	Steve Windle <i>McMahon Associates</i>	Matt Ward <i>TranSystems</i>

We welcome new prospective Board Members Mariah Kerr and Kevin Rice.

Per our Bylaws, nominations will remain open until at least 21 days prior to our Annual Membership meeting. Additional nominations may be submitted by correspondence to Section Secretary Amber Midgley prior to our March meeting, provided the nomination petition has been signed by at least 10 percent of the Section membership and the nominee has agreed to serve if elected. The new slate of Officers and Board members will be installed at our Annual Membership meeting.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee (Corey Hull (Chair), Bruce Masi, Jeff Obrecht, Nate Parrish and Matt Ward) for their development of this slate.

Young Members Committee Happenings

The Committee will continue to follow current guidance on gatherings and group activities as this develops and changes.

While indoor events cannot be scheduled, the Committee is looking into a group bike ride as well as a virtual panel discussion with students and younger members. Details are being worked out. Please watch for more information in event flyers which will be available in upcoming e-mail blasts and communications.

President

Drew Sirianni, *Pennoni Associates*

First Vice President

Corey Hull, *JMT*

Second Vice President

Nate Parrish, *HNTB*

Treasurer

Isaac Kessler, *Remington & Vernick Engineers*

Secretary

Amber Midgley, *AECOM*

Assistant Treasurer

Steve DiSciullo, *Michael Baker International*

Immediate Past President

Alexa Egan Harper, *Gannett Fleming*

Board of Directors

Term expires 2021

Elaine Elbich, *Pennsylvania Department of Transportation*

Phil Mandato, *Felix Mandato & Sons*

Bob O'Neill, *Lotus Environmental*

Matt Ward, *TranSystems*

Term expires 2022

Peter Berthold, *Pennsylvania Department of Transportation*

Bruce Masi, *Gannett Fleming*

Sarah McInnes, *Pennsylvania Department of Transportation*

John Quirus, *HDR*

Term expires 2023

Jeff Given, *Loftus Construction*

David High, *Traffic Planning & Design*

Mike Mogan, *Rybinski Engineering*

Steve Windle, *McMahon Associates*

Regional Director

John Caperilla, *McTish, Kunkel & Associates*

Section Executive

Bob Wright, *McMahon Associates*

DVSP Program Sponsorship

Our Section started the Delaware Valley Section Patron (DVSP) Program in the 2005-06 season to allow supporting firms to be recognized. In the 16 years of this Program's existence, it has grown from a group of 12 participants into its current coverage.

**DVSP benefits
(\$200 for the season)**

**Logo and Hotlink on
Section Website
(delvalley.ashe.pro)**

**Logo in THE
TRANSPORTATION TIMES**

As you may be aware, the proceeds of the DVSP are earmarked to support our Section's Scholarship Fund. For a \$200 fee for the season, sponsoring firms are cited for their support with their logos displayed on our website and in each edition of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES. This also provides a "hot link" to access the firm's website directly from ours.

Thus far a total of 25 firms have committed to the DVSP Program. They are represented by their logos, shown on page 5 as well as on our website. **Many thanks to those of you who have participated in this program and helped support our Section!**

If you are not already a DVSP and would like to join or find out more about the program, please contact Bob Wright (information provided on page 6).

Dinner Meetings and Section Events - Unfortunately, More of the Same...

With the current restrictions and guidance in effect for large groups and gatherings, we have had to make the difficult decision to not conduct our usual in-person dinner meetings for the remainder of this season. We are hopeful that our 2021-22 season can return to our normal routine of in-person meetings, but we will play this "by ear" and comply with directives on gatherings as things change.

We have successfully turned to technology and conducted six "dinner" meetings (including the "bonus" meeting in December) and two Technical Sessions to date as virtual events. Recent meetings have been without any problems or issues, and we have enjoyed a healthy level of attendance and participation at these meetings. We will continue to use the virtual platforms for meetings as a fallback to be able to provide a meaningful and informative meeting program when in-person/dinner events are not possible.

We are planning a good program of meeting topics for the rest of this season and will continue to provide professional development credit (PDH) as appropriate. While, unfortunately, you will not be able to benefit from the usual networking and social opportunities that each Dinner Meeting had offered, we are hopeful there will be at least the learning and professional development credit available for you while we see what the future brings. We will be conducting planned Technical Sessions in the coming months and ask that you please watch for further notices and information on these as they develop.

We appreciate your patience as we do what we can to provide our as-normal-as-possible meeting program within the constraints in place. As we like to say, we're all in this together, and let's hope for the best.

Sponsors in Transportation/Transition

New Faces in TPD's Pennsylvania Operations

Two new senior-level managers were recently welcomed to the TPD team - leaders who have demonstrated records of technical excellence and client satisfaction within the Pennsylvania transportation marketplace. Combined with TPD's established services and operations, these managers will work with agencies, counties, municipalities and others to help deliver quality engineering and construction projects across the Commonwealth and beyond.

Christine Frey, PE is a Senior Project Manager in Highway Services. She is an accomplished Project Manager with over 26 years of Traffic Engineering and Highway Design experience, primarily in the Lehigh Valley. She previously served as a Project Manager for multiple intersection improvement and bridge replacement projects in PennDOT's Engineering District 5-0, as well as Agreement Manager for a PennDOT District 5-0 Highway Occupancy Permit Review Contract. She has served as a Consultant Project Manager (CPM) for District 5-0 for the past 13 years. At TPD, she will be responsible for managing design agreements, and will continue her role as a District 5-0 Consultant Project Manager.

Randy Altemose is a Senior Construction Manager in Construction Services. He leverages his 36 years of experience to help clients successfully deliver CM/CI projects throughout Northeastern PA. Much of his career was spent at PennDOT's Engineering District 5-0 with various duties, including Project Management, Constructability Reviews, CPM Scheduling, IT Training, and Construction Inspection and Documentation for a multitude of project types, including roadways, bridges, streetscapes, trails and ADA ramps. In his previous position of FAM Coordinator, he managed all of the District's federally-funded, locally-sponsored projects, including the reconstruction of the Coplay-Northampton Bridge in Lehigh and Northampton Counties, as well as the reconstruction of the Buttonwood Bridge in Reading.

Environmentally Speaking...

Our Environmental Committee provides this regular feature in *THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES* on items of interest from the environmental side for our awareness and information.

To PCB, or Not to PCB?...That is the question – answered ably by **Environmental Committee member Jeff Obrecht** of RK&K, who provided this brief summary of PADEP’s Management of Fill Policy concerning PCB-contaminated soils:

On January 16, 2021, PADEP issued an update to Pennsylvania’s Management of Fill Policy (Document Number 258-2182-773); this Policy describes the type of fill that qualifies as clean fill or regulated fill. The updates to this Policy’s definitions for clean fill and regulated fill, and the procedure for performing a fill determination, provide clarification on the required coordination with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the potential applicability of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to soil containing PCB concentrations above 2 parts per million. As established in the Policy, because TSCA requirements are independent of any use of fill that otherwise is in conformance with PADEP’s policy and regulations, PADEP advises clean/regulated fill applicants may need separate approval from EPA and recommends contacting the PCB Coordinator for EPA Region 3.

The updated Policy is available at: <http://www.depgreenport.state.pa.us/elibrary/GetFolder?FolderID=4647>.

Reminder - Membership Applications Are Now Electronic!

If you know someone who is considering becoming an ASHE member, our Membership Application can be downloaded and completed, then submitted via e-mail, with payment available via PayPal. Please visit our website (delvalley.ashe.pro) and click on the **Membership** tab for more information and details on this.



We hope this will make the process of becoming a member of our Section more efficient. Please feel free to share this information with anyone you know who may be interested in joining our Section.



PennDOT Breakfast Seminar - Hold the Date

Our Section has conducted a half-day “breakfast meeting”/ seminar at PennDOT District 6-0 for several years and will continue the “tradition” this year, although it will be a virtual session this time around (and breakfast is on your own...). The seminar will be conducted on **Wednesday, May 19**, from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM.



More information will be provided in a separate event flyer, including the seminar topics and registration information. There will NOT be a limit on attendance by non-government agency employees as in the past and the event will be open to all.

PDH’s will be available for the sessions presented at this Seminar.

If you have an interest in being part of any Committee, please contact Section President Drew Sirianni (information is provided on page 6).

Please note that some committees have co-chairs to assist in the often-complicated tasks they must handle.

Section Committees/ Chairs

Adopt-A-Highway
Amber Midgley

**ASHE/PennDOT
Breakfast Meeting**
Alexa Egan Harper

Auditing
Bruce Masi

Dinner Meetings
Steve Windle

Environmental
Colleen Meiswich

50/50
Sean Pence
Kevin Rice

Golf
Mike Mogan

Hotel
Phil Mandato

Membership
Dave High

Newsletter
Bob Wright

Nominating
Corey Hull

Program
Jeff Given
Drew Sirianni

Project of the Year
Matt Ward

Public Relations
Corey Hull

Scholarships
Sarah McInnes

**Social/Society
Relations**
Elaine Elbich

Student Chapters
Mariah Kerr

Technical Papers
Bruce Masi

Technical Sessions
Steve DiSciullo
John Quirus

Website
Pete Berthold

Young Members
Steve DiSciullo



Delaware Valley Section Patrons (DVSP) 2020-21
Thanks for your support!



Contact Us

THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES, the newsletter of the Delaware Valley Section, is published and distributed to our members several times each season to advise and update all on current events and happenings in our Section.

If you have news items for future editions of THE TRANSPORTATION TIMES, please feel free to contact us.

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REMINDER

Deadline for copy/
information for the next
edition of THE
TRANSPORTATION TIMES

March 19

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Please visit
delvalley.ashe.pro for all
the Section's current
information you'll need to
keep up-to-date on things.

Donna Prentice Memorial Scholarship Competitions - Awards Made!

Our Section's Scholarship Program has been benefitting local college students since 1972. We have had one of the largest such efforts among ASHE Sections nationally over the years. Many recipients have gone on to positions in the industry, both locally and out of the area, and a number have become members of ASHE.

Last season, a total of \$12,000 in awards was made last year to 9 students for the Donna Prentice Scholarship and two awards were made from the Robert Shaw Memorial Scholarship, with which we assist another group. This time around we were able to offer the same dollar amount distributed among seven selected recipients (listed at right). We are proud to be able to support our local students and help them in their educational pursuits. The Program has benefited numerous local college students over the years, and was renamed in honor of the late **Donna Prentice**, wife of long-time Section member Rich Prentice, in 2003. **Congratulations to all our recipients!**

While we were unable to conduct our 25th Annual Golf Outing last year, which helps fund these awards, we have been soliciting for contributions to the Scholarship Fund to continue our efforts to assist our students, with Section "dinner" meeting fees being dedicated to this cause. We thank those of you who contributed as you could toward this to help us make our Scholarship Program a success again this year.

We are planning to conduct the Golf Outing this year - please hold the date for this on **Monday, June 14**. More information will be coming in a separate event flyer.

And thanks to our Scholarship Committee, chaired by **Sarah McInnes**, for another good job helping future engineers!

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Bridget Courtney, Drexel University

Paige Cutler, awaiting decision

Natalia Dzietyczk, Drexel University

Garrett Giangiulio, Drexel University

Jacob Rogers, Drexel University

Jason Roman-Mancini, Widener
University

Myrlie Taylor, Drexel University

Future City Competition - Infrastructure Award Winners!

Our Section once again offered the Infrastructure Award at the Future City Philadelphia Regional competition, conducted on January 31. Our team of Section judges, **Jeff Guzy** and **Jeff Obrecht**, reviewed numerous projects developed and submitted by local students in 6th-8th grades. The student teams must create a fictional city with simulation software, describe it in a narrative, and build a model of their city. Over 40 schools participated in the effort this year, with (no surprise) the event being virtual for the first time.

"Team Jeffs" selected the team from **Downingtown Middle School** in Downingtown as the recipient of our Section's Infrastructure Award, for its creation of the fictional city of the future, **Selene**. We will invite the team to attend our April Dinner meeting, if it is available, to show its winning model and answer questions on its city.

Congratulations to the Downingtown team, and thanks to "Team Jeffs" for helping with this.

American Society of Highway Engineers — Mission Statement

Provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry to promote a safe, efficient and sustainable transportation system through education, innovation and fellowship