



T&DI CONNECTIONS

July 2022

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Update on ASCE's Transportation Conferences, Austin, June 2023
- Remembering Joel Leisch (1941-2022)
- New T&DI LinkedIn Page Launched – *Follow and Engage Now!*

Letter from T&DI President David Noyce

The Competition Has Started!

As I write this month's message, nearly every T&DI member in academia is feverishly working on preparing proposals for the next University Transportation Center (UTC) competition. With thanks to the recent *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* federal legislation, the Secretary of Transportation has been approved to make grants to establish and operate 35 UTCs. Proposals are due at the end of August so needless to say it will be a very busy summer for many.



David A. Noyce, Ph.D., P.E.,
F.ASCE, President, Transportation
& Development Institute (T&DI)
American Society of Civil
Engineers (ASCE)

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INSTITUTE NEWS

Update on ASCE's Transportation Conferences, Austin, June 2023

ASCE International Conference on Transportation & Development (ICTD 2023) and International Airfield and Highway Pavements Conference (Pavements 2023) will be co-located at Hilton Austin from June 14 to 17, 2023, giving attendees access to two conferences for the registration of one. The call for submissions will be launched in just a couple of weeks on August 8 and will be accompanied by email and social media announcements. ***Stay tuned for more information and get ready to submit your abstracts as early as possible.***



Remembering Joel Leisch (1941-2022)

When we lose someone with a legacy this large, it's best to leave the remembrance to those who knew them best. Joel's friends and colleagues reflect on his life and career.

By: Wayne Kittelson, John M. Mason, Brian Ray, and Pete Jenior

Joel P. Leisch, an iconic member of the transportation profession, passed away unexpectedly on June 30, 2022. He was 81 years old and still actively contributing to the profession.

Joel graduated with a BSCE from Purdue University in 1964 and an MSCE from Northwestern University in 1968. He served in the US Navy from 1963 to 1966 and was decorated for bravery in action for his duty on a gunboat in the Mekong Delta.



[Continue Reading](#)

Younger Member News

Younger Member Spotlight - Bruce King



Bruce King has accomplished a lot.

He's a young professional engineer, an Air Force National Guardsman, and a Senior Project Manager for the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans). He has repaired a runway with a short turnaround time and lack of materials while working around a flight schedule and passed his P.E. Exam on the first try.

Bruce's role model growing up was his uncle, an engineer (now retired) who inspired him to get involved in the field. Managing rail and aviation projects, he's motivated by two of the VTrans strategic goals: growing Vermont's economy and transitioning to an energy efficient transportation system. "Improving freight and passenger rail infrastructure helps lower carbon emissions and increase sustainability," said Bruce. "Vermont also has a growing industry of electric aircraft development and General Aviation businesses."

He's also the father of a two year-old, which may be the toughest job of all.

For someone with so many experiences, some of his favorites include working with different types of people, traveling, stamp collecting, serving in the Air Force, and spending time with his family.

"Bloom where you're planted. Wherever you are, do the best that you can and you'll blossom. Make the best of it and more opportunities will open."

Thanks for letting us feature you, Bruce!

COMMITTEE NEWS

Members Lead Charge to Establish New T&DI Committee

ASCE, through its Transportation & Development Institute (T&DI), has been in the process of establishing an **Automated Transit Systems (ATS) Committee** and is poised to make recommendations to the T&DI Board of Governors for formal adoption at Summer's close. Organizationally, the proposed new Committee will be under the Rail and Transit Council, chaired by Walt Kulyk.

[Read More](#)

MODaaS Committee Publishes Third Quarterly Newsletter



The ASCE Transportation and Development Institute's [Mobility on Demand and as a Service \(MODAaaS\)](#) technical committee has published its third quarterly newsletter. The committee's strategic plan is to develop a forum for the exchange of ideas and knowledge among professionals in the engineering industry and to connect the industry to academia and government. [Join the MoDaaS committee](#) to get involved.

[Download the Newsletter](#)



A New and Improved LinkedIn Experience is Here

We've moved! We're making some changes to better serve you, including making our new page easier to find and to share information. Please follow us on our new [LinkedIn Showcase Page!](#)



ASCE NEWS

Free Sustainability Webinar: Updating Structural Specifications to Reduce Embodied Carbon

Interested about the impact of embodied carbon? Do you know how to calculate the carbon impact of steel or concrete? With a push for the reduction of embodied carbon driven by owners and policy, engineers must update project specifications to address this emerging topic. Join us for a FREE, live webinar co-hosted by [ASCE's Committee on Sustainability and Structural Engineering Institute](#) on Aug 10 at 12pm ET to learn more.



Register Today!

ASCE Innovation in Sustainable Engineering Award

**Innovation in Sustainable Engineering Award**

ASCE is seeking nominations for projects that advance sustainability principles! ASCE supports civil engineering design that improves economic, social, and environmental sustainability.
Nominations are due by Nov. 1.

Learn more

Nominations are open for the ASCE Innovation in Sustainable Engineering Award through November 1, 2022. ASCE established this award in 1981 to recognize civil engineering projects for creativity and innovative

sustainability and have the potential for use in broad application of future projects. Please see the official rules, eligibility requirements, and nomination process on the [Innovation in Sustainable Engineering Award's website](#) or click the above image.

[Submit a Nomination](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

FHA Announces Long-Term Infrastructure Performance (LTIP) Student Data Analysis Contest

The Federal Highway Administration is pleased to announce the [2022 Long-Term Infrastructure Performance \(LTIP\) Student Data Analysis Contest](#). This contest encourages university students to use pavement or bridge performance data to study the various factors affecting long-term pavement and bridge performance, and to develop a technical paper documenting their research.

Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a college or university in the United States in 2022 are eligible to enter the contest. While students must be the primary authors, faculty may participate in an advisory role and be coauthors of the paper.

Here is a [sample of an exemplary paper](#). For more information, visit [InfoPave](#) or [InfoBridge](#).

Contest submissions are due by Friday, July 29, 2022, 11:59 p.m. ET.

ASCE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

FHWA Issues Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for States to Reduce Emissions

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on July 7th [announced](#) a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for states and municipalities to track and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Specifically, the NPRM would establish a national framework for tracking state-by-state progress by

adding a new GHG performance management measure to the existing FHWA national performance measures. Creating a flexible system, state departments of transportation and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) would set their own declining targets for GHG emissions from travel on the [National Highway System](#). The proposed rule is meant to steer the transportation sector away from being the leading source of emissions and contribute to a solution.

FAA Announces Various Awards through Airport Programs

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on July 7th [announced](#) \$1 billion in awards through the Airport Terminal Program, which was created by the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA). Issued to 85 airports across the country, the [grants](#) are meant to expand capacity at terminals, increase energy efficiency, promote competition, and provide better accessibility to people with disabilities. FAA has been active in issuing funding through IIJA-supported programs. On July 1st, the agency awarded \$371 million through the [Airport Improvement Program](#).

White House Hosts Briefing on Workforce Development Initiative

Biden Administration representatives on July 6th hosted a briefing on the recently launched [Talent Pipeline Challenge](#), a summer-long initiative to fill jobs dedicated to rebuilding the nation's infrastructure. The initiative focuses on workforce development in three sectors: broadband, construction, and electrification (electric vehicle charging infrastructure and battery manufacturing). The Talent Pipeline Challenge encourages employers to partner with and hire skilled workers from at least one regional training provider and asks those training providers to commit to helping with recruitment in the identified sectors and provide grants for underserved communities. The challenge also asks state and local partners to take advantage of federal investments, such as the \$800 million available from the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA), to invest in workforce development.

DOT Announces Funding for Railroad Crossing Elimination Program

The Department of Transportation (DOT) on June 30th [issued](#) a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) that makes \$573 million available through the [Railroad Crossing Elimination Program](#). Created by the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA), this grant program is intended to improve safety, eliminate lengthy delays at railroad crossings, and lower the cost of

transporting goods. The program will fund projects that create grade separations, closures, and track relocations. Applications are due October 4th.

Application Period Opens for DOT's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program

The Department of Transportation (DOT) has opened a [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) for the Reconnecting Communities pilot program, which addresses communities that have been separated from economic opportunities by transportation infrastructure. For fiscal year (FY) 2022, the NOFO makes up to \$195 million available. Reconnecting a community may involve adapting existing infrastructure or improving accessibility through measures such as crosswalks or redesigned intersections. Eligible applicants for the Reconnecting Communities pilot program include states, local and tribal governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and nonprofit groups. Applications are due October 13th.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



Guided Online Courses

Guided Online Courses have begun, but it's not too late to register! Learn more and sign up today!

- *highly engaging*
- *6 and 12-week*
- *self-paced*
- *use any device*



Construction of Port Facilities

Sep19 – Dec 9, 2022

[Learn More](#)

Marine Container Terminal Planning

Sep19 – Dec 9, 2022

[Learn More](#)

Permeable Pavements: Design, Construction, and Maintenance

Sep19 – Dec 9, 2022

[Learn More](#)

P.E. Review Courses

Pass your PE Civil computer-based exam with ASCE's help!

Earning your PE license is one of the most pivotal steps in your career. ASCE's PE exam review courses offer you self-guided sessions that are ideal for you if you like the flexibility of preparing at your own pace at a time convenient to you with the option to combine with live online sessions for a more structured, real-time learning experience.

[Register for P.E. Review Courses](#)

ASCE Week in Las Vegas

Join ASCE September 25-30 at the Hilton Lake Las Vegas Resort & Spa in Henderson, NV, for ASCE Week 2022! With the opportunity to earn up to 40 PDH, breakfast and lunch included in the price of registration, and a livestreaming option, there's no reason not to attend! Register by September 2 for the early bird registration price.



[Register](#)

On-Demand Webinar Packages

Take advantage of savings by ordering complete on-demand webinar packages versus purchasing on-demand webinars individually.

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On-Demand Learning

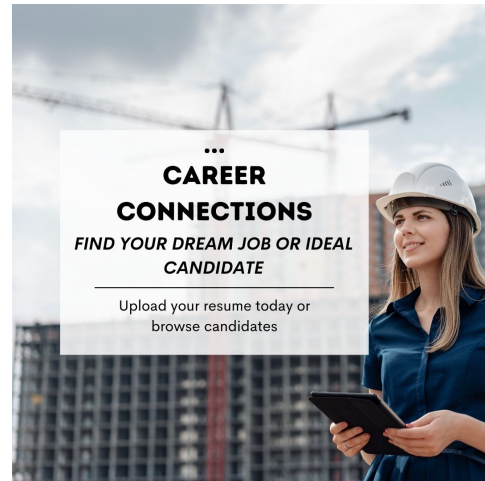
- Choose your topic and learn on your own time.
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[Learn More](#)

ASCE Career Connections

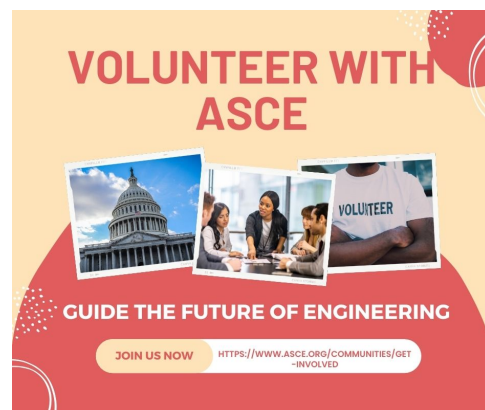
Interested in finding a first job, a new job, or hiring a top notch candidate? Our [Career Connections](#) page will put you in touch with the right people!

- Upload your resume
- Browse candidates
- Connect with potential employers or employees



Get Involved!

Want to participate more with T&DI, but aren't sure exactly what to do or how to do it? No problem! There are plenty of opportunities to get involved! Visit the [ASCE Communities Page](#) to find the best fit for you.



Motivation Minute



National Recreation and Parks Month

Thank you for helping us celebrate National Recreation and Parks Month on social media!

“There is nothing so American as our national parks.... The fundamental idea behind the parks...is that the country belongs to the people, that it is in process of making for the enrichment of the lives of all of us.”

-Theodore Roosevelt



Thank you to all of our members! Have a safe and happy summer!

Follow us on Social Media!



Questions? Comments? Concerns? Want to contribute to the next issue?

Please contact Melissa Willis at mwillis@asce.org



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