



# Student Chapter Leader Announcements

[ASCE Student Chapter Website](#)

**March 18, 2020**

## 2020 Student Conference/Competitions Announcement

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### Dear Faculty Advisors and Student Leaders

Please see below for a message sent to Student Conference Hosts today, Wednesday, March 18, 2020. Please share this information broadly with your Student Chapter members.

Leslie Payne  
Director | Student & Younger Member Programs  
Member Communities Division

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Dear ASCE Student Conference Hosts,

The health and safety of our students, faculty advisors, and volunteers remains our highest priority. The uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19) is a challenge for us all, and we have been working to provide certainty wherever possible. We appreciate your patience and support.

We have been closely evaluating the impact of COVID-19. The situation has rapidly evolved, even as we were preparing guidance for virtual competition early this week. Based on the feedback from many of you, who shared the challenges and hardships you were facing as you adjusted to the realities of national, state, local and university mandates, it became clear that even plans to simplify the formats for virtual competition would be met with many obstacles for students.

Therefore, we have decided to cancel all remaining Student Conference activities and we are announcing the cancellation of the ASCE 2020 National Concrete Canoe Competition, Sustainable Solutions Competition, and Blue Sky Competition in Madison, WI, June 13-15. Additionally, we are cancelling the ASCE Surveying Competition and Society-wide finals taking place at the UESI Surveying & Geomatics Conference, May 31-June 2. Finally, we are cancelling the Student Regional Innovation Contest. We have taken these measures so that faculty and students may focus fully on completing their semesters remotely and in full consideration of their health, safety, and welfare while doing so. As difficult as these decisions were to make, we do not want to add further hardship to ASCE students during these uncertain times.

We understand that these decisions impact our Student Conference planning teams and student members in many ways, and want to especially acknowledge our graduating seniors, who along with other team members are greatly disappointed by this decision. We recognize the many hours, hard work, and devotion that have gone into your projects, and we are committed to finding ways to recognize and showcase your achievements in the months ahead. We also want to thank our faculty advisors and department chairs for their continued support of students and our ASCE Student Chapters.

We realize this is unprecedented, and we are grieved by the loss of the many opportunities to celebrate the civil engineering profession and our ASCE student community.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support.

Respectfully,

K.N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE, D.GE  
ASCE President

Thomas W. Smith III, ENV-SP, CAE, F.ASCE  
Executive Director

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American Society of Civil Engineers  
Student and Younger Member Programs  
703-295-6105 | [student@asce.org](mailto:student@asce.org)

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