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Why I wish to serve as a UESI Governor?

I want to build upon what has already been accomplished by the previous Board and ASCE in the first few years of the Institute by continuing to push forward the Institute's agenda and goals. Having served in a leadership position for the past five years for the Pipeline Conference, I understand how much effort goes on behind the scenes to have a successful conference and provide a forum for networking and exchanging ideas. I want to use the knowledge and experience I’ve gained in this effort to facilitate discussions between the Board and the other Divisions to help them grow and become more successful.

There are so many brilliant people within this Institute with ideas on how to solve problems, complete projects more efficiently and safely, and develop standards for our industry. I want to be a conduit to bring these ideas to the Board, determine how these relate to the long-term strategic goals of the Institute, and how changes can be made to improve our industry, our standards, or even public policies.

What I wish to accomplish in this role?

I want to continue to help our members grow by providing opportunities to showcase technical and professional experience, available technologies, products, and processes that highlight our industry. This information will not only be used to help our members advance in the industry, but also to provide an opportunity for the Board to evaluate and determine the strategic direction of the Institute.

A specific goal of mine is to assist the Utility Risk Management division to help move forward a system to improve coordination of information between utility companies to help mitigate the risks associated with underground construction by sharing and providing information during the design and construction phases of a project. One of the biggest risk factors of underground projects is not knowing what is underground. Encountering an unknown utility can cause project delays, additional project costs, utility outages, disruption to the public, and in the most unfortunate situations, loss of life. Having open communication between utility companies through a process to easily share utility information in a secure environment, we can help minimize utility risks and increase the opportunity for everyone to go home safely. Having worked on an infrastructure replacement and rehabilitation project in a downtown environment that included nearly 20 different utility companies, I understand first-hand the risks of not knowing what is in the ground versus the benefits of collaborating, sharing information and working together so that everyone is successful.