

# Palm Beach Branch Update

The Newsletter of the Palm Beach Branch, Florida Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

## Monthly Meetings

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 17, 2007  
from 12:00-1:00 P.M.

### LUNCH RSVP:

Please submit the attached  
**LUNCH ORDER form** to  
**Nadia Zeitinger** by **FRIDAY**  
**13<sup>th</sup>** via e-mail  
[ASCE.FAU@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ASCE.FAU@GMAIL.COM)  
The lunch will cost \$7.00.

### WHERE:

University Center Palmetto Palm  
Room (everyone attending should  
stop at the information booth for a  
parking decal).

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) at  
Glades Road, Boca Raton Campus.

(From I-95, go east on Glades Road  
exit, FAU Main Entrance is located  
to the north side of Glades Road)

### SPEAKER:

Dr. Teegavarapu and  
Dr. Kaiser -  
Assistant Professors in the  
Civil Engineering  
Department - FAU

## April 2007



### Dates to Remember:

#### ASCE Monthly Lunch Meeting

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

#### **Joint Meeting ASCE- Palm Beach Branch, FAU and Broward Branch**

#### Engineers in Government Night

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

#### West Point Bridge Competition Florida Section

August 16, 2007  
Sawgrass Marriot,  
Ponte Vedra Beach

## President's Message

The Palm Beach Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers would like to invite you to the Nineteenth Annual Engineers in Government Night "EIGN". The event will be held at the South Florida Water Management District's office on Gun Club Road on Tuesday April 24, 2007. Both FES and ASCE will be honoring those civil engineers who have gone above their normal duties and given back to their community and profession. EIGN also honors those engineers employed by the federal, state, and local government agencies who are a big part of the planning, implementation, and maintenance policies of all the projects. The guest speaker will be Tommy Strowd, P.E., and Assistant Deputy Executive Director of CERP. The night will start off at 5:30PM with beverages and hors d'oeuvres and no reservations are needed.

This month is also our joint lunch meeting with the Broward Chapter to be held at the Engineering Building on the FAU Campus in Boca Raton on April 17, 2007.

Looking ahead to May, we have our Young Engineers Social at Gatsby's on May 2, 2007. Our May lunch meeting will be on Thursday, May 10th with our guest speaker, Robert Weisman, P.E., Palm Beach County Administrator

To all the members, thank you for your support.

**Mike Roach**

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**Advertisement for Engineering Positions**

See listed ads at the end of the Newsletter.

**Young Member Social**

Look for upcoming announcements for the next Young Member Social – Come and meet the young members and enjoy the food, fun and drinks! This is a great opportunity to meet new colleagues and friends in your profession.

**Engineers in Government Night**

Join us for this year's Engineers in Government Night at the South Florida Water Management District. The event is sponsored by your local chapters of both ASCE and FES and features good food, networking with your peers and our key note speaker – Tommy Strowd, P.E. The event is free and no reservations are required. Don't forget to sign up to sponsor the program as ad spots are filling up fast! Contact Shawn Waldeck, P.E. at 561.242.5520 ext. 4023 or [swaldeck@sfwmd.gov](mailto:swaldeck@sfwmd.gov) for more information.

**TOMMY B. STROWD, P.E.**  
 Assistant Deputy Executive Director,  
 CERP

**Community Partnerships - The Elsie & Marvin Dekelbom Family Foundation** has formed partnerships with a number of community stakeholders to create a state-of-the-art science center that will greatly expand the region's economic, educational, and cultural resources.



Entrance to Dekelbom Science Center

The planned \$54 million Dekelbom Science Center (DSC) will contain 100,000 square feet of innovative, interactive learning exhibits on three floors. The Center will contain a **Planetarium Theater**, an **IMAX® Theater**, an **Everglades Interpretive Exhibit**, a **Sci-Tech Auditorium**, a **major aquarium gallery**, a **Florida Natural History exhibit**, major exhibit galleries, and **The Quantum Education Center** with classrooms and laboratories.

The DSC will be located on nearly 11 acres of land beside Lake Lytal Park, one of Palm Beach County's most active public parks. Early site clearing and vegetation removal have begun. This venue will provide a comprehensive educational and entertainment resource for millions of residents and visitors for generations to come. State and federal governments have designated the DSC as a **regional center for Martin, Glades, Indian River, St. Lucie, Hendry and Okeechobee Counties** in the area of educational needs in science.

Fouad Masri, P.E.  
 Vice President • Branch Manager

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**Increasing ASCE's Political Involvement**

In mid-2005, ASCE's Board of Direction created a Task Force on Political Involvement to examine the Society's involvement in political activities, both current and future endeavors. During the past year the Task Force has evaluated our current activities and also looked at ways to increase the Society's public policy and political involvement.

The Task Force is preparing to recommend to the Board the establishment of a parallel 501(c)6 organization, thus allowing increased lobbying and political activity on behalf of the membership of ASCE. The Board will have the chance to act on the Task Force recommendations in 2007, but we have been reaching out to the membership in advance of any decision to provide more information and receive comments and suggestions.

At present ASCE is allowed to lobby within strict dollar limitations, but we are prohibited from engaging in any political activities (endorsing candidates). The recommendations would allow ASCE greater flexibility in its lobbying activities and allow ASCE to be involved in political campaigns by having a political action committee (PAC) and endorsing candidates. A PAC would be a separate entity from the new 501(c)6 and could allow for voluntary contributions to be made to the PAC by ASCE members which could then be given to candidates for federal office. The Task Force on Political Involvement wants to hear from ASCE leaders on this important issue. To facilitate a dialogue we will be hosting a series of Town Hall Meetings and webinars in the next 3 months (See schedule below). Participation in these events is free and open to all ASCE members, though advance registration is required.

To register for any of these events please email [govwash@asce.org](mailto:govwash@asce.org)

**Mentor Program**

There will be a kick off meeting in the summer 2006 and all the information on how to be the best mentor possible will be given to you. If you are interested and would like please contact one of us an application, Many Thanks from the Student Professional Development Committee!  
 Olive Bailey and Bonnie Serina  
[Olive.Bailey@WantmanGroup.com](mailto:Olive.Bailey@WantmanGroup.com)  
[bserina@millerlegg.com](mailto:bserina@millerlegg.com)

**ASCE Spring/Summer 2007 Continuing Education Seminars**

**April 19-20, 2007**

**Atlanta, GA**

**Seismic Design of Highway Bridges (Structural)**

**May 10-11, 2007**

**Atlanta, GA**

**Financial Management for the Professional Engineer (Management)**

**May 17-18, 2007**

**Orleans, LA**

**Leadership Development for the Engineer (Management)**

**May 17-18, 2007**

**Orleans, LA**

**Workshop for Owners & Leaders of Engineering Firms (Management)**

**Detailed descriptions of the seminars (by title) are available on ASCE's website at [www.asce.org/conted/seminars](http://www.asce.org/conted/seminars).**

**Membership Update:**

In order to be sure that everyone receives the newsletter and other benefits of ASCE, please take the time to go to <http://www.asce.org/membership>



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**2006-2007**

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