











ENR's Annual

ACE Mentor Program Yearbook 2017

Building for the Future







"Leading by example, delivers increased participation by ACE Mentor students."

— **Kevin Brown**, E.I.T., *Construction Manager*, Urban Engineers

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A Letter From the ACE Mentor Chair

Another 9,000 kids know a little more about our industry thanks in large

part to several thousand industry professionals who volunteered as mentors this past year. Each of these extraordinary individuals took time out of their busy schedules to make a difference to young people, the community and our industry.

At ACE, we measure our success by the number of students. Our goal last year was to grow the program by 1,000 students—we added 1,400! However, we're cautious in our quest. Successful growth takes time. In every case, whether establishing a new affiliate or growing an existing affiliate, we want to make sure there's an active local board, sponsor buy-in, school system champions and, of course, excited and committed mentors. Most satisfying to me is that a large majority (90%) of our current mentors say they will likely return next year—that means we're providing the right environment and tools.

I'm also excited about the number of ACE alumni who are returning to our program as mentors and leaders. One ACE alumna that you'll read about in the following pages is so committed to our program that she cofounded a new affiliate. I challenge anyone to read about the four ACE alumni spotlighted this year and not be inspired by their stories of ACE's impact.

Earlier this summer, I had an opportunity feel the energy and excitement of our mentors first hand at the All Affiliates Conference in Kansas City, Mo. Over the course of two days, 75 individuals from 45 affiliates came together to learn, share and network. Diana Eidenshink and the ACE National team did a great job putting together sessions and workshops. Thanks to Bentley Systems for sponsoring the overall event and to the Kansas City offices of three national sponsors for underwriting a reception.

Of note, conference attendees had a chance to test drive our new custom-built database that will streamline affiliate administrative activities and improve employment opportunities for our ACE students and graduates. Special thanks to

the five national sponsors who covered 90% of the cost for the database development. We're especially appreciative of the EMCOR Group, including Director of Online Marketing Joanne Lindberg and Vice President of Marketing & Communications Mava Heffler, for developing and managing our old database all these years.

EMCOR, and especially President and CEO Tony Guzzi, has been vital to our organizational success. All of us on the ACE National Board will greatly miss Tony, who is leaving the board after more than 15 years. ACE owes a real debt to him, his leadership team and his company for critical in-kind support of our administrative functions.

As well, my term as ACE chairman comes to an end this year, though I will continue to head the ACE fundraising committee. ACE National First Vice Chairman Peter Davoren, president and CEO of Turner Construction Co. and staunch ACE advocate, will take over as chairman in 2018. I've worked with Peter for years and am confident he will lead our organization to new heights.

In closing, I challenge every executive in our industry to encourage its employees to mentor in our program. It's a huge opportunity that delivers tangible benefits. We've found that those who volunteer are terrific time managers, they're proud of their skills and our industry, and they are exceptional leaders. Mentors of all ages improve communication and leadership skills while building industry relationships and community connections. Give it a shot; visit just one mentoring session. You won't regret it—and the impact on the community, the kids, our profession and your business will be unrivalled.



Thomas F. Gilbane Jr.

Chairman, ACE National Board Chairman, Gilbane Building Co. Chairman and CEO, Gilbane Inc.

ACE Mentor Yearbook 2017 SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

At the Heart of ACE: Volunteer Mentors Make a Difference

The ACE Mentor Program's more than 3,600 volunteer mentors are a microcosm of the very best of the building and construction industry. They come from all walks of life with varying skill sets and years of experience. They're architects, engineers, construction managers, lawyers, contractors, business development leaders and human resources professionals. Some are senior executives; others fresh out of college. Some give a few hours; some more than 100 hours. Nearly all of them want to continue mentoring if their personal and professional circumstances allow.

They mentor for many reasons. According to a recent survey, the top three reasons for their commitment are: the pleasure of sharing a passion for their career, the joy of working with young people and the satisfaction of helping a student explore career possibilities in ways the mentor never experienced. Many ACE mentors also emphasize the gratification they gain from helping recruit the next generation of industry professionals and/or helping a young person overcome challenging circumstances.

Surprisingly, even after more than 20 years of ACE's existence, new mentors are still largely recruited by word of mouth. Their introduction to the program often comes from a suggestion of a colleague or superior—and once they're in, most stay for at least several years.

Why They Do It

ACE mentors dedicate time to the ACE program (on average 38 hours per year) and realize both personal and professional benefits—but it's the kids who keep them coming back year after year.

For the past 16 years, David Urffer, principal with JKRP Architects, has supported the program in Philadelphia as an industry advocate, mentor, team leader and board member. Urffer



Longtime Indianapolis Affiliate mentor Randy Schmidt tests the strength of a toothpick and gumdrop structure designed by students.

started volunteering with the **Eastern Pennsylvania Affiliate** in 2000 at the suggestion from a top executive at ACE sponsor firm O'Donnell and Naccarato.

When asked why he continues to volunteer, Urffer is quick to say, "First, it's the right thing to do. Giving back to

Ninety-four percent of mentors report professional benefits, and 98% say they gained various personal benefits.

the community and talking with kids who want to learn about our industry are vital to our future. For me, it's also an opportunity to provide insight about our industry. I never got this as a teenager."

Randy Schmidt agrees. He's a senior project manager with Fink Roberts & Petrie who got involved with the **Indianapolis Affiliate** 10 years ago at the suggestion of William G. Horton, an ACE advocate and now president of the structural engineering company. Schmidt notes, "The energy and excitement of the students putting together final projects certainly keeps me coming back to the program. Beyond that, it's the individual stories of young people finding a passion."

He recalls one young woman who started the program two years ago with no knowledge of the industry, but during a visit to an interior design office, she fell in love. Schmidt says, "She didn't even know the profession existed. Now she's earned scholarships and is headed to college. As a mentor, that's extraordinarily gratifying."

Schmidt is particularly beloved by the students for his creative structural activities that include mixing concrete, forming cylinders and then visiting a local testing lab to break them. "Kids love to break things!" he laughs. "It really gets them interested in the program and sometimes my profession."

Kar Ho, BIM and virtual design design and construction manager for

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ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

ARCHITECTURE - CONSTRUCTION - ENGINEERING

AmeriCan Dream: the C is the key.



In the fields of Architecture, Construction and Engineering, Allan Myers believes that, for many deserving high school students who might not plan to attend college, the key to building their American Dream is a career in construction. That's why Allan Myers continues to be a proud sponsor of the ACE Mentor Program, and is committed to providing career paths of growth and opportunity for those students.



It's never too early to start dreaming, but more importantly, it's never too early to start planning. It's your future. Make it a good one. Believe in the **c**.





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Eastern PA Affiliate mentor Christina Marconi leads students in an interior design activity.

Current Builders, has mentored for the past seven years with the **Broward County Florida Affiliate**. He recalls, "My boss at the time suggested I look into the program. I loved it and realized that ACE is the perfect opportunity to give back the body of knowledge that I've learned."

A health care planner for SmithGroupJJR with 12 years of experience, Erica Fisher has been a mentor for seven years and also serves on the **Phoenix Affiliate**'s board. She recalls, "So many young people have no idea what they want to do or of the opportunities in our industry. The connections we make for the students with professionals stick through their careers. But it's the students who return to mentor who really make my mentoring experience satisfying."

Katie Chevalier is one such student.

Building Awareness

Chevalier participated in the **Upstate New York Affiliate** in Albany for three years, graduating in 2007. While earning her master's degree in architecture, she mentored for the Denver Affiliate and then returned east for a job and started mentoring for her "home" affiliate in Albany before helping found the new **Hudson** Valley, New York Affiliate in 2016, where she also mentored. A registered architect, she recently became ACE's regional director for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region. She says, "ACE provided me with an invaluable experience to explore my interest in architecture prior to college. I knew I wanted to give back in the same way that my ACE mentors did for me."

Thinking about students like Chevalier, JKRP Architects' Urffer



ACE ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ROBERT CLARKE Technical Designer Gensler

In high school, Robert Clarke loved the study of languages and ancient societies, particularly Greek and Latin—but architecture also fascinated him. To help him decide the course of his future, his parents signed him up for a variety of after-school programs, including ACE.

He explains, "My mom is a nurse practitioner with a doctoral degree, and my dad is a successful general contractor—they wanted me to have options to study whatever interested me. I joined the ACE **Rhode Island Affiliate** as a junior in high school and that same summer got an internship at a construction firm through one of my mentors. The following summer, I got another internship with an architecture firm—and the rest is history."

Robert went on to get his bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture from Roger Williams University in

Rhode Island. Upon graduation in 2016, he went to work for Gensler in Austin, Texas, as a technical designer and joined the local ACE program as a mentor.

"I met Gerardo Gandy and Adrianna Hong, both members of the board at the ACE **Austin Affiliate**, when I started at Gensler," he recalls. "When I told them I was an ACE alum, they asked me to be a mentor."

2016–2017 was Robert's first year as a mentor. "What a great experience," he says. "The young people in the program are so smart and know a lot more than I did at the same age. It's very rewarding to be a part of helping them choose career paths and sharing my experiences. My goal is to help them in the same way that ACE mentors helped me."

Robert is still in contact with one of his original ACE mentors, adding, "She's an inspiration who offered advice and friendship through college and still today." In fact, that same mentor helped Robert's sister choose her career path—she's now studying architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

A6 | August 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd



Brasfield & Gorrie is committed to growing, nurturing, and inspiring future construction leaders through the ACE Mentor Program.



"Seeing the students' faces light up during our weekly sessions and activities is the greatest reward."

Michael Hasamoh, Virtual Design Coordinator



"As a former ACE student, I want to foster genuine excitement about the design and construction industry as it had been fostered in me."

David Meek, Project Manager



ACE Mentor Yearbook 2017 SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

continues, "I get a great deal of satisfaction helping these young people learn about our profession—something I never had. Also, I believe that mentoring all these years (16) has helped me be a better parent. I've learned much about teenage motivations, energy levels and their ability to focus."

Lamar A. Johnson, regional managing principal and the community impact firm-wide leader for Gensler, has been involved with the Chicago Affiliate for a number of years as a mentor and, most recently, as a member of the ACE National Board. He adds. "I know firsthand how rewarding mentoring can be. In our firm, ACE is much more than an after-school activity—it's a great way to directly and positively impact our communities in a way that reaches out to young people while building awareness about career opportunities. The kids we work with are truly remarkable. Their drive outpaces that of most adults, with some students traveling up to 3 hours a day to attend the program."

Carlos Gonzalez, regional executive officer and senior vice president at Clark Construction Group, has been involved with ACE since 2013, first as a mentor and member of the San Diego Affiliate's board and now as a member of the ACE National Board. He confirms, "It's the students who keep me coming back. One of the greatest

accomplishments of my professional life has been to see one young person that I mentored go to college, get a job in the industry and then return to ACE as a mentor. That young man was 15 years old when I first met him in ACE. Today, he is leading a project for Clark, he is an ACE mentor and, I believe, one of our company's future leaders."

Dan Johnson, president of M.A. Mortenson Co., founding board member of the **Twin Cities Affiliate** and ACE National Board member, says, "ACE mentors return year after year because of the impact they have on the students. I believe the greatest reward mentors receive is the ability to share their own excitement about our industry and expose students to opportunities that they may have never considered."

Leaders in Training

Almost 75% of ACE mentors recently surveyed believe that mentoring with ACE extends their professional network, and 40% believe it helps develop or hone leadership skills. Even the mentors might be surprised at how top industry executives perceive the professional value of ACE.

Clark Construction's Gonzalez firmly believes that ACE mentoring gives young and mid-level professionals great training to become industry leaders. He adds, "From a leadership perspective, those who are able to balance life and work and volunteer in the community are very good time managers—an important skill in our industry. I see those who mentor as leaders; they are individuals interested in improving their skills and who also have the ability to teach and coach—vital characteristics for company leaders."

Mentors often work with 10-20 kids from a variety of backgrounds who, for the most part, know nothing about the industry, but "they're hungry to learn," adds Gensler's Johnson. "ACE mentors find ways to channel a student's energy while also coaching and teaching. The true reward for mentors is watching the students grow and develop in both the task at hand and the life lessons they learn along the way. These skills in leadership development are incredible and directly influence mentors' professional work as they gain confidence, which translates to everyday use with clients and colleagues."

Ross Myers, chairman and CEO of Allan Myers and ACE Executive Committee member, agrees, adding, "Within ACE, professionals have to learn to lead with influence and not power. I believe the program really helps develop our future leaders, all while influencing young minds."

ACE alum Chevalier sees professional value in a variety of ways. "One of the greatest rewards that I see from ACE is the value of the relationships formed in the program," she says. "Those do not end upon high school graduation. As an ACE student, I was able to maintain contact with my mentors throughout college and as I entered the profession of architecture. My first job out of college came from my relationship with ACE mentors—associations that continue to this day."

Spreading the Word

Every affiliate's goal is to continue strengthening and, if possible, expanding the program to more schools, more students and more teams. Of course, expansion requires more mentors, a task that is often difficult because of some preconceived notions about mentoring.



Mentors give students special access to industry workplaces. Here, **Austin Affiliate** mentors lead students on a jobsite tour.

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BUILDING THE FUTURE

PCL is developing the next generation of industry leaders in architecture, construction, and engineering through participating in the ACE Mentor Program. By recognizing the unique possibilities created by sharing our experiences with budding minds, we're helping build people and communities.

The most common misconception is that mentoring takes a lot of time. "That's just not the case," says Thomas E. James, deputy regional commissioner for the Public Buildings Service at the General Service Administration's National Capital Region, ACE mentor and board member with the **Greater Washington**, **D.C. Affiliate**. "The program is uniquely built to fit the needs of anyone's schedule, whether that's 1 hour a month or 10 hours a week."

Current Builders' Ho adds, "Too often, I hear from colleagues that they can't volunteer because it's a huge time commitment. But it's not like that, especially if the affiliate has a strong board. We have a curriculum that is adaptable to virtually any teaching style so it doesn't take as much time to execute."

Some industry professionals are reluctant to mentor because they don't think they have enough years of experience. Mortenson's Johnson disputes that perception, adding, "All of us who work in this industry, regardless of tenure, can be impactful by showing our passion and telling our stories. Many times, the younger mentors may actually be better equipped from a role model perspective, as they can be more relatable to high school students."



Mentors give students a hands-on experience.

Phoenix Affiliate's Fisher agrees and points to the marketing professionals in her affiliate who are terrific mentors. "It's really about showing up and spending time with the students," she explains. "As well, every affiliate can use help behind the scenes marketing the program, building website content and much more. There's something for everyone."

Clark Construction's Gonzalez concludes, "ACE certainly requires a willingness to step up. However, it's not about the quantity of hours but the quality of the interaction with the students. I remind people that investing a couple hours every two weeks for a few months in young people and your own personal and professional growth will pay long-term dividends."



ACE ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

ELIZABETH VAN ROSSENProject Engineer

Swinerton Builders

Beyond the opportunity to give back, former ACE student and now ACE mentor Elizabeth has found that the program is a tremendous vehicle for professional growth. She first joined the ACE **Portland Oregon Affiliate** as a high school senior in 2008 because a friend pushed her to attend an informational session.

She recalls, "I had no idea what I wanted to study—maybe business. That changed quickly. Through ACE, I learned that mechanical engineers work on buildings—and I was hooked. ACE is the number-one reason I now have a mechanical engineering degree."

Four years later, Elizabeth earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Portland State University—but

she didn't lose touch with ACE. She volunteered as a student mentor in her senior year of college and continued as a professional mentor after graduation.

"ACE was such an important part of my career path," she confirms. "I knew that once I started working in the industry, I wanted to get back involved with the program. It's a great program that not only introduces you to an industry that many don't know about, but it also provides great community connections to mentors and future colleagues."

Elizabeth is still learning from ACE. As a mentor, she realized that she wanted to get more involved in the construction management side of the business. She adds, "Listening to and working with ACE mentors, I realized that I loved engineering but wanted to be more on the construction management side rather than design."

Today, Elizabeth is a project engineer for Swinerton Builders. ◆

ACE 2016-2017 Statistical Snapshot



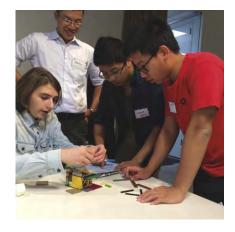
1994

Year ACE was established

9,086 Students



3,614
Volunteer mentors



68%Minority on

Minority and underserved students

"ACE hands down has been the most important afterschool activity I participated in during high school."

—Central Iowa Affiliate student





A12 | August 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd



37 States
with ACE programs
(plus District of Columbia
and Puerto Rico)



\$1.7M Scholarships awarded to 831 students

and alumni (2016)

\$17.3MValue of mentors' in-kind services

\$15M+ Scholarships awarded since 1994

"ACE has been a consistent source of inspiration and encouragement.

Even when busy with my professional workload, the weekly ACE meetings have served as a valuable reset and refresh."—

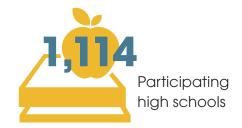
—Chicago mentor

ACE seniors enter college with construction industry-related majors or join skilled crafts programs





"Mentoring is always a welcome break in my week, full of youthful energy and enthusiasm." —New York City mentor





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ACE Affiliates Celebrate Milestones



Los Angeles Affiliate students learn about the trades through hands-on activities at its four Trades Days. Other affiliates have followed LA's example.

In communities across the country,

ACE affiliates are making a difference in impressive, varied and inspiring ways. From supplemental summer camps to diverse community alliances, these volunteer organizations are finding new ways to raise money for scholarships, expand program features, and grow student and mentor participation.

The following highlights the vitality, innovation and growth of several affiliates that are also celebrating noteworthy anniversaries.

Building Bridges by the Bay

The San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate started with just 40 students and 25 mentors in 2002. This year, it registered more than 300 students and 150 mentors in the program spread across San Francisco, Alameda, Santa Clara and Contra Costa counties.

Over the past 15 years, the affiliate has adapted its program to meet the needs of its many students and mentors. For example, it used to host an auditorium-like year-end event, where each team presented its project individually to an audience. However, mentors noted only minimal interaction

amongst the students, sponsors, parents and teachers. As a result, four years ago, the board reformatted the program as an open-house science fair-style event that allowed everyone to mingle—and it's been a resounding success for all parties, especially the students and sponsor firms hoping to build their future workforce. This past year's event in May attracted 140 people, and the affiliate was proud to have awarded 10

high school seniors with scholarships ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$3,500.

Affiliate leaders underscore mentor appreciation because they realize that continued growth in the Bay Area is only limited by the number of mentors they can enlist. In order to keep mentors excited and engaged, the affiliate looks to host regular mentor-only social activities, which give volunteers opportunities to talk about the program and make lasting professional connections and friendships.

LA Overdrive

Founded by Terry Dooley in 2002, the **Los Angeles Metropolitan Area Affiliate** started with three schools and a small group of mentors. Today, this affiliate has grown to 22 teams comprised of more than 30 schools, 210 mentors and more than 450 students.

This school year, the group awarded \$102,000 in scholarships—37 to local high school seniors and 65 to program alumni who are now in college or trade school pursuing AEC careers. Since its first year, the affiliate has distributed more than \$1 million in scholarships.

The affiliate's success is largely due to its creative and motivational programs. For example, a decade ago,

First-Year Affiliates in Action

The first year can be the most difficult for new affiliates looking to build programs with new schools, employers and the community. The four affiliates spotlighted below are wonderful examples of the power and promise of ACE.

The **Greater Omaha Affiliate**'s first year was a resounding success thanks in large part to its strategic plan. Sixty-five students completed the program with guidance from 45 mentors. The board raised more than \$30,000 and awarded \$20,000 in scholarships.

After a short break, the **St. Louis Affiliate** is on the fast track again. This

past year, 28 industry professionals mentored 15 students from one school.

After some tax-exemption paperwork challenges, the **Honolulu Affiliate** resumed operations in a strong way. Forty-nine students completed the program with help from eight committed mentors.

The Hudson Valley Affiliate in New York was cofounded by Erik Collier of Collier Construction LLC and former ACE student Katie Chevalier. It mentored an impressive three teams composed of 52 students from more than 15 schools.

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the affiliate organized a Trades Day, which over a full day gave students a hands-on opportunity to learn about careers within the construction trades. Now, four Trades Days are scheduled each year.

Affiliate leaders have encouraged and enabled students to explore career opportunities outside the regular ACE program. Select students receive financial support to attend summer camps or other workshops run by

New Affiliates Coming to a City Near You

ACE is always looking to expand its reach. New affiliates are on track to start up in the 2017–2018 school year.

The **Knoxville Affiliate** will become ACE's third affiliate in Tennessee. Founder Rhett Coleman of Blaine Construction has teamed with several like-minded individuals in the industry to sponsor the organization.

ACE Ozarks will be the third affiliate in Missouri. Based in Springfield, the affiliate already has 15 committed mentors to support five student teams comprised of five students each.

The Midlands South Carolina
Affiliate operating in Columbia will operate alongside the Charleston and Upstate Affiliates. The group expects approximately 25 students in its inaugural program.

The **Milwaukee Affiliate**, the first ACE program in the state of Wisconsin, will start in the fall with 20–30 students from two schools.

As well, three emerging affiliates are in the pipeline for 2018, including affiliates in State College, Penn.;
Akron, Ohio; and New Hampshire.

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, Johns Hopkins University and Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc). The affiliate has always sent several students to a summer camp initially set up by ACE in California but now run by the University of Colorado, Denver.

The affiliate has also shared its success by assisting affiliate startups in Southern California, including the **Inland Empire Affiliate** and a team in Santa Barbara that may become a separate affiliate.

Baltimore Believes

The **Baltimore Affiliate** has grown from three schools within the city and county of Baltimore and 20 mentors to 12 schools, 110 students and 80 mentors since its founding in 2002.

Much of that growth has occurred in the past five years, in large part due to industry and community partnerships. One such relationship is with the



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Maryland Center for Construction Education and Innovation, an industryled workforce intermediary.

John J. Harris, principal with Hord Coplan Macht and president of the affiliate, says, "We are particularly proud of the consistency that we see with our supporting firms and mentors. Many mentors have served for a decade or more. We have a great base of local support from 35 area firms that support us with their people and dollars, which go to scholarships."



The 2017 **Boston Affiliate** fundraiser set new records with 415 attendees and \$121,000 in net income

Particularly rewarding to mentors and sponsors is when an ACE alum returns to the program as a mentor. One example is Amanda Boehmleim, a graduate of Eastern Technical High School, ACE scholarship recipient and engineer from the University of Maryland who now works for Whiting-Turner and mentors for the affiliate.

Boston Dynamics

When it started in the 2007–2008 school year, the **Greater Boston Affiliate** began with 15 students and awarded a single \$1,000 scholarship. This year, 73 students graduated, and 19 seniors received a total of \$125,000 in scholarships. While the affiliate has been around for 10 years, its board members believe it's the strategic plan they put in place five years ago that really sparked the affiliate's growth.

Michael A. Tecci, senior project manager at Simpson Gumpertz & Heger and 2016 *ENR*–ACE Outstanding Mentor winner, says, "We set realistic goals and established a clear plan of action to accomplish those goals. We focused on delivering a dynamic program for the students and the mentors, and mining the Boston community for resources to strengthen the program."

Specifically, the group sought to improve student retention by increasing hands-on activities for students. The development of a handbook with activities and a white paper on lessons learned and best practices for mentoring helped create program structure. The affiliate recently started a Trades Day program to introduce students to trades, such as carpentry and masonry. Regular mentoring sessions include rousing games, such as ACE Jeopardy and ACE Pictionary, and a mock negotiation session that introduces students to construction law.

The group is now working on its next five-year plan that will focus on creating



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Our professionals take personal responsibility for training future leaders in the industry, giving back to the communities where we work by mentoring young people. We are partnering for the future to build groundbreaking ideas.

That's the Hensel Phelps Way.



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Communities.

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Charlotte Affiliate students learn about construction first-hand during a site visit.

sustainable growth, fundraising and budgeting, developing the organizational structure, and taking advantage of the affiliate's database to track students as they go through college and enter the workforce.

Charlotte's Community Web

About 175 students go through the **Charlotte**, **N.C. Affiliate** in a given year, thanks in large part to more

than 40 mentors, numerous sponsors and some impressive community relationships that have evolved since its founding a decade ago.

In particular, the affiliate's relationship with Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) has helped build the program's identity. The community college was the first sponsor for the affiliate's new model of hub locations, in which students from

multiple schools meet at a regional location to form one team.

Jenny Vallimont, principal with Gökotta and ACE Charlotte board member, explains, "The hub approach instead of hosting at individual high schools—has allowed us to retain and grow our mentor volunteer base considerably while providing a greater number of students with some unique opportunities."

Affiliate leaders have now established a similar relationship for a hub location at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC). University City Partners, a local nonprofit economic development organization located close to UNCC, provides oversight and mentors for the new location.

ACE Charlotte also has an agreement with AIA Charlotte whereby it pays the fees for two ACE students (sophomores or juniors) to attend the UNCC's annual summer architecture camp. And ACE

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Thornton Tomasetti

Thornton Tomasetti salutes Chairman Charlie Thornton and the ACE Mentor program for their leadership in the design and construction industry.



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ACE Mentor Yearbook 2017 SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION



The Construction Employers Association established a \$100,000 endowment for the Cleveland Affiliate.

partnered with CPCC this summer to provide a student scholarship to one of the school's trades summer camp programs.

ACE students are given opportunities to gain meaningful experience through a partner internship program with the City of Charlotte. Also, the City of Charlotte, through the Mayor's Youth Employment Program, matches qualified ACE students with appropriate companies for jobs. Finally, the affiliate hosted its first annual Trades Day supported by 10 local companies.

Raleigh/Durham Pushes Boundaries

Much has changed since 2007 when the Raleigh/Durham Affiliate in North Carolina began with just eight students. This past school year, 78 students from 24 high schools led by 30 mentors completed the program. Since Wake County has construction and engineering academies, the affiliate is working with the school district to allow participation in the program to count toward required internship hours.

The affiliate board is also working to expand its relationship with nearby North Carolina State University, which will open up opportunities for ACE students to attend design camp and possibly, in the future, earn college scholarships. The affiliate has also jumped its annual fundraising donations from around \$6,000 several years ago to almost \$20,000 this year.

Because many young mentors want to get more deeply involved in the program, the affiliate's board will establish an Associates Board for the 2017–2018 year. The early

career professionals on the Associates Board will assist with the affiliate's administrative matters.

The board plans to expand the program to Durham, which has a completely different demographic makeup than Raleigh. It has already established the all-important relationships with Durham schools and the community, and found industry partners to provide space and more mentors. The goal is to host the first Durham team in 2018.

Cleveland Connects

The Cleveland Affiliate awarded \$116,000 in scholarships from company and college partners to 21 students from nine Cleveland high schools this past school year. That sum total included five matching donations from local universities—three from Kent State University for students studying architecture and two from Cleveland State University for ACE engineering students. Since 2008, the affiliate has distributed more than \$550,000 in college scholarships to 100 students.

As a tribute to the great work the affiliate does for the industry, the Construction Employers Association (CEA) created a \$100,000 endowment for ACE as part of CEA's centennial celebration. The endowment will be administered by the Cleveland Foundation. Don Dreier, acting chairman of CEA's Board of Directors and executive vice president of Donley's Inc., states, "We put our money where our mouth is. Our \$100,000 donation shows that we believe in the students and the results that we've seen from their participation in ACE."

Of note, more than 150 students were mentored by employees from more than 70 local firms this past year.

Phoenix Rising

Established in 2007, the **Phoenix Affiliate** today has 30 mentors who work with 50 students from multiple high schools around the Salt Valley. The program distributed \$11,500 in scholarships, thanks in large part to contributions from more than 20

company sponsors. The group has already had several former ACE students return as mentors after graduation from college.

Since its inception, the affiliate has been based at Metro Tech High School, part of the Phoenix Union High School District. In 2016–2017, the group launched a second program at East Valley Institute of Technology, a career and technical education high school in eastern Phoenix.

According to affiliate leaders, the program was a great success, with 15 students graduating from the program. The group expects continue the momentum this coming year.

Inland Empire Inspires

Serving the Riverside, San Bernardino and Ontario metropolitan areas in California, the **Inland Empire Affiliate** has grown from one school in 2012 to four for a total of 56 students led by 16 mentors. Perhaps more impressively, the group has been able to fund all of its qualified scholarship requests. This past school year, the affiliate awarded 39 \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors and ACE alumni in college—almost double the scholarships awarded in May 2016. The board anticipates funding upward of 47 \$1,000 scholarships this next school year.

Daniel Benner, principal at HMC Architects and affiliate board member, says, "What is remarkable and very rewarding to the board members and mentors is that the vast majority of the students applying for these scholarships are college-enrolled students who are pursuing their higher education and career aspirations in one of the ACE disciplines."

ACE Inland Empire's goal is to add two more high schools within the next two years, if it can attract enough mentors. With an eye on growing demand, the board has expanded to include eight individuals/firms, all strategically focused on attracting new mentors. It has also introduced an annual fundraising golf event that opens the door to a whole new roster of potential mentors. •

A22 | August 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd

STEM Premier: Career Pathways for ACE Students

This past year, ACE partnered with STEM Premier, an online program that brings students, educators and employers together as a way to expand student opportunities for scholarships and even jobs.

Through the partnership, ACE students and alumni enjoy free access to the STEM Premier online network. Within the site, students interested

in STEM-related fields create virtual portfolios that spotlight their academic achievements, skills and experiences and then connect with colleges and universities, STEM corporate partners and government agencies looking to recruit ACE talent.

Almost 400 ACE students and alumni have developed a STEM Premier profile thus far, including Carolina

Rivera who will attend Philadelphia University this coming year to study civil engineering. She notes, "I switched from architecture to civil engineering because of ACE (Eastern PA Affiliate). I learned

through the program that

I was more excited about working on a jobsite than in an office. Thanks to ACE, I learned a little about all the ACE fields and found the best one for me."

Through her STEM Premier profile, she's also found some help paying for her engineering education. She has used Red Kite, a financial aid program linked with the STEM Premiere website where students are able to apply directly to thousands of scholarship sources and find recommendations and resources to promote career growth. "I like that it has so many scholarships in one place and the way it organizes the scholarships that I've applied for and those that I'm eligible for too," Carolina adds. She's already won three scholarships.

All ACE affiliates have complimentary full access to STEM Premier, enabling them to track their students through college and employment. As well, ACE sponsors can join at a discount. •





ACE's New Database Goes Live

It's custom-built, it's powerful and it's online! ACE's new database, a comprehensive tool many months in the making, is now available to all affiliates to help manage every facet of their programs. The new database replaces the decade-old system created, donated and managed by EMCOR. That system

was a valuable tool in the early years but was not built to handle ACE's current scope and needs.

Commenting on the old database, Anne O'Neill, executive director of the **Denver Affiliate**, says, "Managing the registration information about students and mentors has been one of our affiliate's biggest challenges. The old database required a major time commitment—time we could have spent on the most important elements of ACE, which are the students and mentors."

The new database was built from scratch based on requests and recommendations from national staff and affiliates. It incorporates many new features, functionalities and modules with connected links, as well as strengthened security and comprehensive data encryption.

O'Neill notes, "The new database promises to reduce the time needed to manage registrations and other functions. It will allow us to be more productive and devote more time to reaching students and fulfilling ACE's mission."

Through the online system, affiliates will be able to track pledges, payouts and sponsors by market segment. The customizable scholarship module will let them manage scholarship award winners and track disbursements.

Mentors can take advantage of the integrated mentor training module and a background check module that is automatically updated from Verified Volunteers, a volunteer screening service provider for nonprofits and volunteer programs. To facilitate team management, mentors will also be able to document, track and search attendance for ACE sessions.

Several ACE sponsors—Gilbane Building Co., Turner Construction Co., Allan Myers, EMCOR Group and Limbach—generously underwrote most of the expense for the database design.

Ross Myers, chairman and CEO of Allan Myers and long-time ACE National Board member, says, "Our main goal on the board is to make sure that affiliates have all the tools they need to help the mentors and the kids. The database is a key component of that support. Among other benefits, it will give us a way to keep in touch with ACE alumni down the road to offer support and guidance, and hopefully get them involved as mentors." •



Building Better Communities is a key part of Messer's mission. That's why we support the ACE Mentor Program inspiring the next generation to pursue careers in the industry.

Visit messer.com/about/ace/ to learn how you can get involved.







A24 | August 21/28, 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd

ACE Affiliates Converge in Kansas City

For a day and a half in late June, volunteers from 45 affiliates came together in Kansas City, Mo., to share growth strategies and expand program effectiveness. Attendees included ACE National Board Chair Tom Gilbane who gave a spirited keynote, as well as board members Pat Coleman of Thornton Tomasetti and Ray Rhees of Oldcastle.

Conference participants were both old and new hands—60% have been involved with ACE for five or more years. Most of the affiliates represented were mature, though one-fifth have been in operation for four years or less, including two affiliates that are just getting started this fall.

The most well-received events were those focusing on best practices and new ideas, such as the Idea Tool Box, from affiliates around the country, as well as strategies for recruiting and retaining mentors and for developing affiliate boards.

The Idea Tool Box was organized like a fair, where attendees visited stations to learn about various types of best practices presented by different affiliates. Some hands-on activities were demonstrated, curriculum materials and newsletters were on display, and some novel fundraising activities were presented (e.g., Build It Forward from the **Houston Affiliate** and Giant Jenga Block Competition from the **Eastern PA Affiliate**).



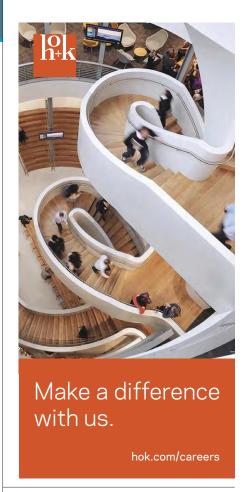
Seattle Affiliate mentors demonstrate their shake table at the conference's popular Idea Tool Box activity fair.

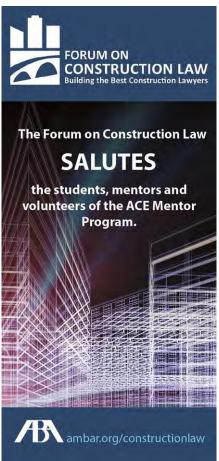
ACE Atlanta Board of Directors Chair Amy Tribo, manager of business development at Holder Construction Co., attended the conference for the first time looking for inspirational ideas for recruiting students and mentors and building partnerships outside of the construction industry. She adds, "I had a chance to learn new things and share our resources throughout. Networking was great bonus. I met a lot of really cool people."

Mackenzie Carolan from the Central Florida Affiliate and business development manager for Gilbane Building Co. had similar thoughts. She explains, "It's great to hear and talk with other affiliates about their programs. I realized that we need to get more creative to grow our chapter. We've got great relationships with universities, and we've done a good job with strategic growth to new areas and developing plans for sustainable growth. I'd love to have this conference more often than every three years. The synergy gained from talking with others in the open-format meetings was especially informative."

More than 90% of participants rated the conference "extremely" or "very" worthwhile. Sixty percent of participants said that the conference exceeded their expectations going into the event. The remaining participants said that the conference met their expectations. One of the major benefits of the conference was the extensive informal networking that occurred both during and after the conference. Nearly all participants (90%) reported that they have been in contact with other participants since the conference or plan to do so soon.

Bentley Systems generously helped support the conference, and the Kansas City offices of HOK, Thornton Tomasetti and Turner sponsored a cocktail reception. •





ACE Builds Gender Diversity in the Industry

By 2018, 71% or more of jobs in the U.S. will require STEM skills. Specific to the construction industry, the Dept. of Labor estimates that the industry will need to grow the jobforce by more than 140,000 people in the coming years to meet industry needs.

Yet, studies show women represent just 24% of the STEM workforce, and minority women comprise fewer than 1 in 10 employed scientists and engineers, according to the Women's Quick Facts book, put together by Million Women Mentors, an initiative of the STEMconnector® consortium, and published in 2017. Perhaps even more concerning, 75% of all students in the United States are women and students of color, and yet, only 45% pursue STEM degrees (PepsiCo Inc., 2016).

Why do we care? Gender diversity is essential to improved decision making and has been proven to increase a

company's financial performance. For the construction industry, greater gender diversity is an important way to address the growing skilled workforce shortage.

Pat Rodgers, president and CEO of Rodgers Builders and ACE Executive Committee member, says, "Every organization or community is better off when those from different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives have an opportunity to contribute to ideas and solutions. We want to attract the best and the brightest to our industry, male or female. ACE is a vital piece of that movement. Across all genders, ethnicity and economic backgrounds, many young people may never be exposed to the opportunities in our industry, and through our wonderful ACE mentors. we're able to introduce them to a wide range of professions."

Rodgers also points to the critical role of women in the business as

mentors, adding, "For many ACE students, especially young women, female mentors open new doors. Many young women will see other women making a difference and say, 'Maybe I can too.' Mentoring is about learning new skills and gaining new experiences, and it's about a desire to make a difference."

Amy Phillips, project and business practice manager at CannonDesign and board chair of ACE's St. Louis Affiliate where she has mentored for several years, believes that mentoring is vital to getting young women into the industry. "I have two small kids and a challenging career with stressful deadlines-but it's really important that we as women in the industry get out there and show other women that it can be done."

Currently, more than 1,330 women mentors, board members and other volunteers (36% of total) inspire ACE's 3.041 female students (34% of total)

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A26 | August 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd to become next-generation architects, engineers, construction managers and other industry professionals. ACE surveys show that ACE female alumni study civil, mechanical and electrical engineering at almost twice the rate of their peers.

Stephanie Costello is one such individual. She is an engineering associate with the Structural Design Division of the Port Authority of New York/New Jersey. She's also an ACE alumna (2012) of the **Greater New York Affiliate** and a new ACE mentor. She says, "While in ACE, I had both men and women mentors from a variety of disciplines. What I saw was a great respect for each other and an ability to work together. Gender wasn't an issue or even a discussion. I never got the impression that one discipline was more male dominated than another."

Pilar Jones, a structural engineer with HKS and **Dallas/Fort Worth Affiliate** mentor, agrees. She began



ACE students learn structural engineering concepts during after-school sessions.

mentoring soon after graduating college at the encouragement of her company executives. "With ACE, we stand elbow-to-elbow with men on a daily basis. There's no preconceived bias about male or female career choices—though I believe that just being present as a mentor is a very effective way to encourage young women to consider the

building and construction industry as a career."

Whitney Walter, vice president at Layton Construction and ACE advocate, concludes, "Many people think that construction is a man's world. Changing that stereotype starts with those of us in the industry—and through ACE, we're doing just that."











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ACE Mentor Yearbook 2017



ACE ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

HECTOR A. SANTACRUZ Architectural Designer STV Incorporated

"Since eighth grade, I wanted to be an architect...or maybe a professional musician," Hector recalls.

He attended Brooklyn Technical High School because it had an architectural program that included introduction to physical and virtual modeling as well as other core design

"I loved the program," he says. "One of my teachers suggested that I look into the ACE program to gain a little real-world knowledge about architecture careers and the interactions with other professions. She was right—and I learned a lot. I had no idea how all the other professions influence and dictate a design."

Hector participated in the ACE Greater New York Affiliate program in both his junior and senior years, reveling in the development of the team final project. "ACE has a brilliant format for mentoring—moving students through the entire

process from conceptual design through engineering and construction management. It was great exposure for all of us "

He also twice participated in a summer internship program hosted by the New York City School Construction Authority, which gave him a chance to view a project's development through the eyes of a construction manager and an opportunity to work with his future employer, STV, as an architectural designer. Hector started with STV in July 2010 as an intern and later became a full-time employee once he graduated with a degree in architecture from City College of New York.

He also immediately started volunteering as an ACE mentor. He concludes, "That program gave me a foot in the door. I still talk with one of my mentors even though he's at another firm now. I wanted to repay ACE's gift in some way—and the best way to do that is mentoring. I find the whole mentoring process fulfilling both emotionally and professionally and hope that I can provide some of the inspiration that my mentors gave me through the years." •



country for their continued success.



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ACE ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

JOSE PAZ Construction Administrator REG Architects

As a freshman in high school, Jose had an interest in civil engineering. He had participated in a middle school career introduction program with the University of Rhode Island Engineering Dept.—and he wanted to continue. He says, "I loved drawing bridges, roads and laying out cities. I thought I knew what career I wanted to pursue—until I got into ACE in high school."

Jose's vision for his future changed during an ACE-sponsored site visit to architectural firm RGB in Providence. "After walking through their offices and seeing all the great work they were doing, I realized that I wanted to someday be in a similar place."

He stayed with ACE until graduating from high school in 2008 and then went on to earn a bachelor's degree in architectural studies from the College of the Holy Cross in 2012.

He also connected closely with one of his mentors from the **Rhode Island Affiliate**. "Ron Stevenson, an architect with Saccoccio & Associates, answered all my questions and helped me find my niche within ACE. With his help, I was able to intern with his company during my senior year of high school. Ron and I still keep in touch."

Jose currently works as a construction administrator for REG Architects in West Palm Beach, Fla. When asked why he returned to ACE as a mentor, he said, "How could I not?"

He continues, "I have always been so grateful for this program. When Allen Gast, chairman of the **Palm Beach/Martin County Affiliate**, asked me to speak to a group of high school students in 2014, I readily agreed. I really would not be where I am if it wasn't for ACE, so it feels only right for me to find a way to give back."

Jose, who also serves as secretary on the affiliate board, emphasizes, "ACE provides such a great opportunity for us to invest our time as mentors to help build the future of our respective professions—an effort that benefits everyone, especially young people."

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Annual CIRT Competition Takes a Digital Turn

The 2017 CIRT National Design & Construction Competition marks the beginning of a new digital era for the annual program.

As part of a collaboration with the Chicago Architecture Foundation, ACE teams across the country had the opportunity to use the DiscoverDesign.org



The Chicago Affiliate Team 6 placed first in the 2017 CIRT National Design and Construction Competition.

digital platform to develop their projects. Through the site, teams were able to upload notes, sketches and renderings, provide links to other media, and receive feedback from the online community of other students, mentors and design professionals as they worked through the design process.

Inside the Competition

The top three finalists selected by the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT) judges moved on to an in-person presentation round, which included printed boards, in Washington, D.C., on April 27 to determine the national champion.

Winners of the 11th Annual CIRT National Design & Construction Competition organized and sponsored by the CIRT with the ACE Mentor Program of America were chosen from 49 entries submitted by students from 23 affiliates across the country.

ACE teams had the option to develop projects from one of three categories:

- Presidential Library & Museum
- Upgrade a Structure
- Open Spaces Design

Mark A. Casso, Esq., CIRT president and creator of the event, notes, "The energy, enthusiasm and passion the three national finalist teams brought to the program made it a very special and memorable event. If this is any indication of the kind of character and diversity we are attracting to our ranks, then the future of our industry will be in good hands!"

National Champion: ACE Mentor Program of Chicago, Team 6, Cultural Museum of Chicago at the Old Post Office

Award: \$5,000

Second Place: ACE of Greater New York, Team 30, Queens Quarters

Award: \$3,000

Third Place: ACE Mentor Program of Rhode Island, PVD Creative Team, Presidential Library & Museum Award: \$2,000

Design Challenge Honor Awards

(First runners-up received \$1,000 and second runners-up received \$500.)

Uparade a Structure

First Runner-Up: ACE Mentor Program of Maryland/Frederick Affiliate, Factory Upscale for Cola Gardens Second Runner-Up: ACE Mentor Program of Chicago, Team 1, Saint Gallery

Open Spaces Design

First Runner-Up: ACE NE Florida/ Gateway Design-Orange Park H.S. Team, Hogan's Creek Community Plaza

Second Runner-Up: ACE Mentor Program of Connecticut/Hartford, Team 1, Riker's Redemption

Presidential Library & Museum

First Runner-Up: ACE Mentor Program of Chicago, Team 5

Second Runner-Up: ACE Mentor Program of Eastern PA, Team 10

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2017 ENR-ACE Outstanding Mentors

As selected by a jury of previous Outstanding Mentor Award winners, the following mentors have demonstrated exceptional dedication, creativity and commitment to the ACE Mentor Program. Each of their affiliates received a \$2,500 student scholarship to be named after them. The Outstanding Mentor Award program is supported by Engineering News-Record (ENR) and its parent company, BNP Media.



Josh M. Braby Partner/Project Manager, Neumann Brothers

A mentor since 2009 with the **Central**

Iowa Affiliate, Josh at different times has also served as team leader, board member and board chair. For several years, he led the affiliate's development committee and doubled annual fundraising. He reconceived the year-end event to increase interaction between students and the audience. This year, in collaboration with a nonprofit working with the homeless, he started a tiny home project for an ACE team. The nonprofit has completed the design for a structure that students, mentors and trades people recently constructed.



Michael Hasamoh Senior VDC Coordinator, Brasfield & Gorrie

For six years, Michael has served as mentor

and lead mentor with one of the **Atlanta Affiliate**'s largest teams. A mentor colleague reports that Michael has never missed a meeting in six years. He pays special attention to linking his team's project to a community need and plans to have all affiliate teams jointly work on community service-based projects. As head of the curriculum committee, Michael annually develops a 50-page handbook guiding students and mentors for the year. He is forging a partnership with a local university for the affiliate's benefit.



ACE Board Chair Tom Gilbane (left) and *Engineering News-Record* Publisher Scott Seltz (right) flank the 2017 ENR-ACE Outstanding Mentor recipients (left to right) Ricardo Zendejas, Michael Hasamoh, Mary Steward, David Meek and Josh Braby.



Project Manager, Brasfield & Gorrie David draws on his two years (2003–05) as an ACE student with the

Nashville Affiliate to inspire and guide students today. In 2013, he took over leadership of a team at a school where the program was faltering. Working with the school champion, he turned the program around by empowering mentors and engaging students to solve weekly design and construction challenges. This spring, he linked his team with a local refugee resettlement agency that asked the ACE students to help it design an after-school facility for at-risk high school refugee students.



Mary P. Stewart, P.E.

Project Manager, Civil Engineering Consultants

In 2007, Mary started as

a mentor and later as team leader with the **San Antonio Affiliate**. In 2013, she transitioned onto the board, helping the affiliate to double its student numbers and advance in other significant ways. She strengthened a partnership with a local university and co-led an effort to get participating high schools to sign an MOU with the affiliate. She also recruits and trains mentors as well as organizes an annual mentor mixer. Her former students remain in touch with her, and one of them is now a lead mentor for the affiliate.



Ricardo J.
Zendejas
Senior Project
Manager, Clark
Construction
Ricardo first participated

in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area Affiliate as a student in 2003. Fourteen years later, he has come full circle, serving as a lead mentor for six years and most recently as a board member. Students praise him for going out of his way to assist them with internships and college admissions. As one of two "team captains" for the affiliate, he is a resource for its many other mentors. In 2014, he helped launch the Inland Empire Affiliate by leading its first mentor training workshop.

Diana Eidenshink, Interim Executive Director, ACE Mentor Program, Plans for the Future



How will ACE continue its growth momentum?

We're now entering year two in our strategic plan,

and growth continues to be our biggest focus. Our goal is to build the workforce through a sustainable mentoring program. This past year, we grew to 9,000 participating students, thanks in large part to the willingness of our affiliates to expand the program's reach.

It's really exciting to me that so much of our growth is through grass roots efforts. Mentors and former students are taking us with them wherever they go. For instance, the new **Hudson Valley Affiliate** was started by two individuals who had mentored at other affiliates and

saw a need. That's a powerful testament to the volunteers in our program. They believe, and they get involved wherever needed. Also, 5% of our mentors are ACE alums—how exciting is that? Our mentor and sponsor energy and commitment are mind-blowing. With support like this, we will go far. We estimate that we'll have 70 active affiliates in the fall, and three or four more are in the works for fall 2018.

Will the leadership transition affect future directions?

We expect a very smooth transition from Tom Gilbane to the incoming chair, Peter Davoren. Peter is a highly respected industry leader with a long and deep commitment to ACE. Tom has done an amazing job of moving our organization forward over the past four years, and we're very fortunate that he will remain an active board member. I also expect to see even greater impact from our board committees thanks to a new focused structure.

How will the ACE National staff expand to handle growth?

First, Andrew Frankel, our former director of regional programs in the West, will become our director of program operations, responsible for overseeing our digital infrastructure. These are all systems that one of our top sponsors, EMCOR, handled for us for years. We are truly appreciative of all the support they've given us for more than a decade in this regard. We simply would not be where we are today without them.



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Andrew's shift to digital administration and my role as interim executive director created two regional director vacancies. Paulette Dallas, former administrator of the **Los Angeles Affiliate**, has been named regional director, West, and Katie Chevalier, an ACE alumna and cofounder of a new affiliate, is filling the Mid-Atlantic/ Northeast regional director position. As well, Tiffany Millner, executive director of the **Eastern PA Affiliate**, is coming on board part time to provide graphic design and other related communications services.

What will ACE National do to help affiliates in 2017–2018?

Our sole mission is to facilitate affiliates and to help them build their programs. Key in this support will be the new database, which is vital to helping our affiliates simplify and reduce the administrative burden of running their programs. They'll be able

to track students during the program and after graduation, manage sponsor data and scholarships, and so much more.

We're also planning to revamp our website to provide more interactive capabilities, better collect, document and share best practices and lesson plans, facilitate more virtual career information, offer fundraising ideas and tools, etc.

We've also introduced a maturity matrix tool that allows affiliates to evaluate themselves in terms of strengths related to mentoring, administration, fundraising and sponsors. Through this rating, ACE National staff will be able to target support to affiliates and customize a plan to help them.

How will ACE improve connections with alumni?

We need to provide our alumni with mechanisms for remaining in touch with us and with reasons to do so.

Our sponsors want to be able to more directly tap into the ACE alumni pool. Certainly, the alumni section of the new website with a dedicated alumni page will help with this by posting jobs and internship opportunities.

We expect our connection to STEM Premier will expand considerably in 2017–2018. We're also piloting programs for our sponsors to help recruit ACE alumni for summer internships and career opportunities while those students are in college. ◆













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ACE National Affiliates 2017

ACE's 70 affiliates are spread across 37 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. For more information about each affiliate, visit www.acementor.org.

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acementoralabama@gmail.com

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Phoenix

phoenixaz@acementor.org

CALIFORNIA

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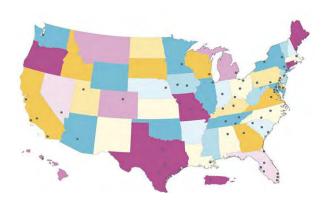
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A36 | August 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd

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A38 | August 2017 enr.com/SpecialAd

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