

ACEC OKLAHOMA

The Voice of Oklahoma's Engineering Industry

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THE FIRST WORD

November, 2016

Leadership For Engineers

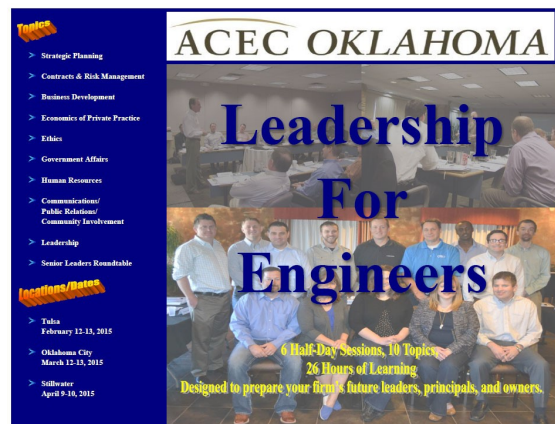
6 Half-Day Sessions, 26 Hours of Learning
Covering 10 Topics

**ONLY THREE (3)
SEATS LEFT!!!!**

The class is filling up quickly, with 12 individuals already registered. With a limit of 15 for the class, there are only three "seats" still available for the 2017 class!

ACEC OKLAHOMA's *Leadership for Engineers* is targeted to all rising industry professionals who are committed to developing their leadership and management skills and abilities, and identified by your firm as a "future leader" of your business.

Registration info is being sent to all members, and is also on the ACEC OKLAHOMA website: www.acecok.org



The poster for the ACEC OKLAHOMA Leadership For Engineers program features a blue background with a list of topics on the left and a group photo of participants on the right. The topics listed are: Strategic Planning, Contracts & Risk Management, Business Development, Economics of Private Practice, Ethics, Government Affairs, Human Resources, Communications/Public Relations/Community Involvement, Leadership, and Senior Leaders Roundtable. The dates and locations are listed as Tulsa (February 12-13, 2015), Oklahoma City (March 13-14, 2015), and Stillwater (April 9-10, 2015). The program details are: 6 Half-Day Sessions, 10 Topics, 26 Hours of Learning, and it is designed to prepare future leaders, principals, and owners.

Senator James Lankford Meets With ACEC OKLAHOMA

U.S. Senator James Lankford met with representatives of ACEC OKLAHOMA on Friday, October 28th. The Senator provided insight on many pressing issues which Congress will face in the upcoming "lame duck" session as well as when the new Congress convenes in January, 2017.

He also discussed the upcoming elections, and the possible change in leadership in both the House and Senate.



(Left-Right) Mike Vahabzadegan, Bret Cabbiness, Joe Davis, Senator Lankford, Marty Hepp, Alan Soltani, Steven Johnson, Gary Evans.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board/General Membership Meeting, Nov 17th, Tulsa

The next ACEC OKLAHOMA Board and General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17th in Tulsa.

Registration information has been sent to all members.

We're trying something a little different for the program for this meeting.

During the meeting, ACEC OKLAHOMA will present an ACEC-produced webinar, "Impact of the New Overtime Pay Rules on Engineering Firms."

On December 1st, new rules from the U.S. Department of Labor go into effect which increase from \$455 to \$913 per week the standard salary level used to determine if employees are eligible for overtime pay.

The increase could have a dramatic impact on all design firms.

Hope to see you in Tulsa on November 17th!

PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY UPDATE

November, 2016

David Raymond, President & CEO

With the election only a week away – regardless of the outcome, ACEC will continue to aggressively pursue our industry's interests in infrastructure funding, regulatory reform, and pro-business tax measures. Energy and WRDA legislation are on the docket for the "lame duck" session. The over 900 attendees at our Fall Conference in Colorado were treated to insightful speakers and programs – "worth more than the price of admission," according to one attendee (see Last Word, October 26) – and 99% of respondents have given the Conference their highest marks of good to excellent. The ACEC Nominating Committee brought forward a slate of new candidates for Council leadership positions (see line-up below) that will now go to the Board for approval. And this week we begin our annual state leadership orientations in Washington D.C., where I look forward to seeing many of you.

General

- The state-specific results of the New York University (NYU) contracting out study went to 28 participating states – highlighting the cost savings of using local firms versus in-sourced design work at DOTs.
- ACEC's Nominating Committee tapped Manish Kothari (ACEC/Metro Washington) for Chair-elect commencing April, 2017 and Chair the following year; and Charlie Gozdziwski (ACEC/New York), Mike McMeekin (ACEC/Nebraska), and Gayle Roberts (ACEC/Iowa) for Vice Chairs commencing in April 2017.
- ACEC's Pathways to Executive Leadership Class 1 for emerging leaders kicked off with 24 attendees at the Fall Conference,

(\$100 million or more) at the Federal Agencies and Procurement Advocacy Committee meeting in Colorado; the Committee also hosted a briefing on cyber defense from the U.S. Air Force Space Command.

- The International Committee met with a representative of the U.S. Executive Director/World Bank's office to discuss strategies for winning Bank-funded work.
- ACEC/PAC has now raised more than \$1.8 million this election cycle, including \$225,000 at the Fall Conference.
- ACEC/PAC hosted congressional fundraising events for U.S. Senators James Lankford (R-OK), Rob Portman (R-OH), and Tim Scott (R-SC), and U.S. Representatives Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Mike Capuano (D-MA), Steve Chabot (R-OH), Barbara Comstock (R-VA), and Peter DeFazio (D-OR).

Government Advocacy

- A court injunction has delayed implementation of the Department of Labor's "blacklisting" rule, giving ACEC and coalition partners a major boost in efforts to eliminate the rule or limit its scope through pending congressional legislation.
- Joined with 33 other business, labor, transportation, and travel groups in urging both major party presidential candidates to include long-term, sustainable transportation funding measures as part of their plans.
- In response to concerns raised by ACEC, the U.S. Department of Labor significantly reduced the reporting requirement in its final "Sick Time" rule.
- Joined a large coalition expressing concerns about a proposed IRS rule that would increase estate taxes on family-owned businesses.
- Joined with labor, trade, and business associations in a letter to the President in support of the Dakota Access Pipeline project.
- Senior officials from the VA and the Corps of Engineers discussed upcoming major projects

Business Resources

- The 3rd Annual Coalitions Roundtable at the Fall Conference discussed how technology is changing our industry and the new tools available to enhance our firms' competitive advantage.
- Don't miss these valuable webinars coming in November: Sustainability and Economic Returns as a Market Differentiator; Infrastructure Owners Are Using Envision; Ethical Decision-Making for PEs: Today's Standards and Benefits; Liability in the 21st Century; The Impact of Climate Change on Opportunities for Engineering Services; Planning for a Smooth Exit: The Importance of Building Firm Value; Driving Toward Driverless: The Automated Vehicle Revolution and What it Means for Transportation; State DOT Contracting and Prequalification Policies – The Effect on Overhead; Step by Step, Putting Together a Strategic Plan; Defining Your Firm's Project Management; Professional Liability - A Look Behind the Curtain; Mapping the Clients Mind: Building Client Loyalty and Avoiding Surprises.