



# STATEWIDE EQUILIBRIUM

July 2016

Annual summer newsletter of the  
Structural Engineers Association of Washington

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## Incoming President's

### Message

By Ted Smith

I joined SEAW in 1976 and have been attending board meetings regularly since I became State and Chapter Treasurer in 1996 when Don Northey moved on after serving 20 years in the Treasurer positions. I believe SEAW serves a vital purpose for our profession by providing continuing educational opportunities and a forum for discussion of the variety of issues we deal with every day as practicing structural engineers, like code changes, engineering registration laws and rules, ethics, and networking with other structural engineers and others in related professions and industries. I am honored to serve in leadership, along with many of you, in this non-profit professional organization. Most of the work is done by a relatively small group of volunteers, compared to our total membership of about more than 800. Many of us take a turn as committee chairs, directors and officers, or focus on the work of

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a particular committee, perhaps developing and presenting our continuing education seminars. There is much to do.

I wholeheartedly support the goals of recent previous Presidents which include:

1. Encourage member participation across all chapters including use of web conferencing. Chapter Presidents are asked to promote state committee participation by their members.
2. Foster partnerships with other organizations like EERI, ACI, ASCE/SEI, NCSEA, to pursue common goals.
3. Assist with members professional development and continuing education needs, by providing Seattle Chapters Refresher Course, state seminars, NW Conference, and sharing ideas for meeting programs.

[Read more](#)

## Outgoing President's Message

By Ted Bernards  
Fellow SEAW Members -

It has been a great honor to serve SEAW this past year. The experience has increased my admiration for our Association, our colleagues, and our profession - a genuinely awesome opportunity. I encourage everyone to involve themselves in our Association - be it volunteering for a leadership position, joining a Committee, or assisting in organizing a monthly meeting. The experience will be rewarding! [Read more](#)

## Seattle Chapter Outgoing President's Message

By Ted Smith  
The Seattle Chapter experienced another year of engaging dinner meetings, and a wide range of activities. We currently have about 560 paid members, but total chapter membership is likely close to 700 considering ongoing late dues collections and Life and Honorary Members. We continue to use the Hotel Monaco in downtown Seattle as our favored dinner meeting venue, and meeting attendance has been good. Meals and service there are terrific. [Read more](#)

## Outreach Committee Report

By Peter Ohsahl, Chair



Last year I had a conversation with a good friend and teacher at a large high school in southeast King County. She was recalling the number of new teacher applicants that had come in for non-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) subjects at 200-300 while the number of teacher applicants for STEM related subjects was two. It took a while for this to sink in, but when it did it hit hard. Also, historical records indicate that the number of college graduates has been decreasing for some years now. It would appear that our profession is facing a challenge of unprecedented proportions in the coming years. This challenge is not only dealing with the declining numbers of college

## Sustainability Committee Report

By Kyle Steuck, Chair

The Sustainability Committee seeks to educate members in the aspects of sustainable design that impact structural engineering, including codes, local projects, design trends, and new technology. We conduct research and compile information to share with the committee and association at large via articles and lectures.

We hold face-to-face meetings in downtown Seattle every month, except for a summer break. See the SEAW events calendar for dates and topics. Web and voice conferencing are available for those who are interested in joining remotely. There are about 15 active committee members and additional corresponding members. New members are always welcome; see the contact information below to get on the email list. [Read more](#)

## Wind Engineering Committee Report

By Scott Douglas, Chair

The SEAW Wind Engineering Committee (WEC), with 44 members on the mailing list, has continued to meet every two months for the most part, typically on the third Thursday of the month in downtown Seattle. All WEC meetings are broadcast over Go-to-Meeting, thus if SEAW members are not able to participate in person they are encouraged to participate remotely. In particular members of the South Central and the Spokane Chapters,

graduates in most fields of engineering, but also a declining number of those willing to teach the subjects, especially in the K through 12 levels, that are so critical to the engineering educations. [Read more](#)

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## Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee Report

By Joyce Lem, Chair

"We never stop learning" describes the past year for the DPR Committee.

### The WAsafe Program

We launched WAsafe, a statewide registry for engineers, architects and building inspectors who are willing to volunteer in a post-disaster environment (post-earthquake, flood, storm). WAsafe is part of a larger database run by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH), originally established for activating health professionals in an emergency or post-disaster environment. It was a logical extension to include WAsafe and we are indebted to the DOH for its generosity. [Read more](#)

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## Earthquake Engineering Committee Report

By Andy Taylor and Kai Ki Mow

The SEAW Earthquake Engineering Committee (EEC) has had another active year. The current EEC membership stands at

who at present still have no representation on the WEC, are invited to participate. [Read more](#)



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## Scholarship Committee Report

By Kevin Solberg, Chair

The Scholarship Committee has been active over the past year promoting the SEAW scholarship to university students, reviewing applications, and interviewing candidates. Current membership consists of Siri Ashworth, Jessica Jenness, Bill Mooseker, Dave Peden, Ben Piermattei, and Kevin Solberg. The committee reviewed twelve applications in March for the 2016 award. The students were from UW (3), WSU (4), Gonzaga (1), Seattle University (3), and Walla Walla Community College (1). Five candidates were shortlisted and interviewed in April. The committee unanimously voted for two candidates to receive a scholarship award, which have each been awarded \$5000 scholarships. The

20 voting members and around 100 corresponding members.

The EEC held seven meetings this year to discuss current technical developments and public policy issues. Several of these meetings featured technical presentations by experts on topics including reorganization of the ACI 318 Building Code; lessons learned from the Canterbury, New Zealand, earthquakes; recent research on steel plate shear walls; and recommendations for design of special concrete shear walls. [Read more](#)

## Public Information Committee Report

By Darrell Staaleson, Chair

Our SEAW Facebook Page is up to 2242 Likes.



Check out the 1-minute video on our Facebook page of SEAW YMF Member Drew Messner of Steeler Construction Supply trying out laying a mortar bed after a little instruction from Journeyman Mason, Lee West. Joyce

committee generally meets via conference call at various intervals throughout the year, with the busiest time between December and April. The committee conducts candidate interviews in Seattle and/or Spokane member offices.

## Scholarship Winners



Nicole Finley, EIT, received her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Washington State University in May 2016. She will pursue her Master of Science in Civil Engineering, with an emphasis in structures, from University of Minnesota, and has already moved to Minnesota to pursue a research opportunity. During her undergrad, Nicole interned at PCL Construction, participated in the student chapter of the Society of Women Engineers, and was a member of the Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society. Her research-based senior project focused on cross-laminated timber construction, which Nicole finds very interesting. She is from La Conner, Washington, and graduated from La Conner High School in 2012. Nicole, 22, enjoys playing soccer and skiing.

Lem, Chair of DP - Disaster Prep Committee was there learning about masonry. 635 people reached with that little video. And it was a fantastic event put on by YMF and organized by Morgan Weise, 2016 YMF President. [Read more](#)

## SEFW News

By Mark D'Amato, President



The Structural Engineering Foundation of Washington (SEFW) had an exciting 2015-2016 year.

The annual Fall Forum, SEFW's central educational event, was held in November 2015 at Benaroya Hall. The Forum's keynote speaker was Dr. Ahmad Rahimian, Director of Structures at WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff in New York.

Dr. Rahimian spoke on the redevelopment of the One World Trade Center building, previously known as the Freedom Tower. [Read more](#)



Samiah Rizvi, EIT, earned her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 2014 from University of Washington and her Master of Science in Structural Engineering in 2016 from Seattle University. She was a value engineering intern at Boeing in Everett and currently works as a structural intern at DCI Engineers, where she focuses mostly on steel and timber design. While at UW, she participated in the ASCE Student Chapter and was an undergrad research assistant. She is from Kirkland and graduated from Juanita High School in 2010. Samiah, 24, enjoys skiing, soccer, and volleyball.

## SEA Northwest Conference - Western Roundup in Montana



Want to know more or signup? Follow the link on our [SEAW Website](#).

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## June Dinner Meeting Recap

By Sean Augustino

The June's Seattle Chapter dinner marked the end of a successful year for SEAW. The dinner had many moments to reflect on the past year and prepare for 2016-17. Among these were a presentation of scholarships to two accomplished students, the presentation of the President's Awards, the awarding of Engineer of the Year to past president Tom Corcoran, and the handing of the gavel from incoming state president Ted Smith to new chapter president Cary Kopczynski. [Read more](#)

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## Ready to Rumble Design Competition

### The Challenge

Will you be ready when the next earthquake strikes Seattle? To help promote earthquake awareness and readiness, Architects Without Borders-Seattle is hosting an open design competition to change the way we think about earthquake preparedness in the Puget Sound area. AWB-Seattle challenges you to propose a potentially life-saving tool, method, system, or product to help our neighbors and community members get ready for the "big one." [Read more](#)

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Keynote Address: Dr. David Lageson - Himalaya/Nepal & Yellowstone Tectonics Evolution: Volcanic/Seismic.

With seminars on topics ranging from Heavy Timber, Changes to Concrete Anchorage, Special Masonry Shear Walls, and earthquake resilience.

And somebody said something about Fly Fishing!

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## The Masonry Society

The Cast Stone Committee of The Masonry Society (TMS) has completed balloting of three new proposed standards as follows:

- Standard for the Design of Architectural Cast Stone (TMS 404)
- Standard for the Fabrication of Architectural Cast Stone (TMS 504)
- Standard Specification for the Installation of Architectural Cast Stone (TMS 604)

[Read more](#)

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## Employment Opportunities

Civil Engineer - Jacobs

Senior Structural Engineer - Jacobs

Structural Staff Engineer - Integrus Architecture

## Membership Update

In accordance with SEAW bylaws, membership applications are vetted by the Executive Director, granted probationary status by the chapter board, and posted for membership comment. Membership is considered accepted 30 days after posting if current year dues are paid and no member objections have been received. [Read more](#)

[Read more](#)



Structural Engineers Association of Washington  
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### Facebook

### Upcoming Events

Tue Feb 5, 2019 [SEAW Refresher Course](#)

Category: Seattle Chapter Events

Wed Feb 13, 2019 [Post-Disaster Building Safety Evaluation Training](#)

Category: Seattle Chapter Events

Tue Feb 19, 2019 [Disaster Prep & Response Committee Meeting](#)

Category: Committee Meetings

Wed Feb 20, 2019 [17th Annual Architectural and Engineering Educational Trade Show](#)

Category: SEFW Events

Tue Mar 19, 2019 [Disaster Prep & Response Committee Meeting](#)

Category: Committee Meetings