Dear Student, Alumni, and Faculty

It is with great joy that I give you the Winter 2014 edition of the ASCE Bruin. This newsletter truly provides a complete insight into the inspiring work produced by each and every officer member over the past quarter here at UCLA. It has been an absolute pleasure to lead these individuals, and it is safe to say that they make me a better leader every day.

This past fall, we have seen great growth in our chapter. We currently have the largest membership in ASCE UCLA’s history, with over 185 active members. To engage such a large membership, we are bolstering our project involvement with a program called No Experience Necessary, in which projects develop a series of informative lectures and mini projects to teach new/younger members necessary theory. This structure has proved successful for many projects, and over the course of the remaining year we will be implementing it project-wide. Further, we will be starting a new project this year, ASC67. This project consists of a construction management team that will compete February 5th - 8th in Reno. Overall, it is safe to say we’ve been very busy. From our afternoon mingling at the Annual CEE Alumni Tailgate, creating families through the revived mentorship program, and the friendships built during nights spent laser tagging and eating turkey under our revamped social program, this quarter has been filled with as much fun as it has hard work.

As winter approaches, our projects will begin gearing up for conference. This year, conference will be held at San Diego State University from April 3rd until April 5th. Beyond conference, our seismic design and geotechnical project teams will also be attending the EERI International Competition taking place in Anchorage, AK during July and Geo-Institute national conference taking place in Atlanta, GA during February, respectively. Further, we will be continuing our work outside of projects with more volunteer opportunities, professional workshops, social events and trips, and of course, the Winter ASCE Career Fair.

ASCE UCLA would like to thank our advisor, Professor Jian Zhang, the CEE Department Chair, Professor Jonathan Stewart, and our Practitioner Advisor, Mr. Bill Goodin, for their continuous support and dedication. Additionally, I would like to thank all of our sponsors for providing the funding necessary to sustain the competitiveness of our projects and volume of programming to continuously develop engineering students on both a professional and social level.

If you have any questions, comments, or if you would like to get involved, feel free to contact me at brooke.m.crowe@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Brooke Crowe
President, ASCE UCLA
This year’s Officer Retreat was held at the end of zero-week again, away from the hustle and bustle of school, and rather tucked away in the mountains at the Big Bear Hostel. With 28 new officers in attendance, as well as 5 alumni, the cabin was both rowdy and cozy, filled with conversation and laughter. Of course, a lot of business got done, as it should, throughout the entire weekend. Starting from the night we arrived, we were already playing games and icebreakers to become familiar with each other. The next day began early, as we took part in a hike in the beautiful mountains of Big Bear. Following that, all the attendees broke up into teams to participate in a competition to see who could build the tallest (and most durable) tower out of solely paper and tape. It was a great experience seeing everyone bonding over something as simple as building a structure out of paper. During the last full day we had as a group, we competed in relay games, again to show the importance of working in teams. From egg tosses to passing Lifesavers to each other using toothpicks held by your teeth, everyone was enthusiastic about participating, which made the retreat even more worthwhile. The real business got done that day, as Core officers met with each officer individually to discuss the upcoming year. Overall, the retreat deemed to be quite a success, as new friendships were made and old friendships grew stronger. And of course, thanks to the attending alumni the retreat ran smoothly, and the food was wonderful, too!
Career Fair

By: Daniel LaFranchi

UCLA’s ASCE organization is a non-profit, student-run club that gives students the opportunity to learn and grow outside of the classroom. Students can participate in a variety of projects, volunteer in philanthropic events, meet professors/industry, and grow as individuals. Our career fairs and info-sessions give industry an opportunity to meet both graduate and undergraduate students in a more intimate environment. The career fair is beneficial to companies seeking motivated students as potential interns and full-time employees, and also gives the students a chance to interact with representatives and gain experience talking with companies – while hopefully also getting a chance to find employment! In addition, the revenue from the career fair is one of the primary ways in which we fund our projects throughout the year. This year, the fall career fair was very successful. ASCE Officers took volunteer shifts throughout the setup, career fair, and cleanup phases of the event to ensure it ran smoothly. This fair featured 13 companies who were all seeking interns and/or full time employees. We had a large volume of student traffic. The feedback from industry representatives was exceptional and all reservation details were taken care of efficiently and effectively.

Professional Development

By: Dennis Cha

This quarter, ASCE - UCLA hosted a total of four information sessions, which is more than what we hosted in previous two years during the same quarter. All four information sessions were hosted with quality refreshments, which, doubtlessly, students enjoyed. Not only did we have more frequent information sessions during the quarter, but we also had better student turnouts at the information sessions. The information session for Accenture, a management consulting and technology services company, held on Tuesday of the first week (October 1st), brought 24 students from mixed major groups, whereas the information session for Kimley-Horn & Associates, a heavy-civil and design engineering firm, hosted 27 students and alumni on November 5th. One noteworthy point about Accenture information session was that Kendra Rusinek, an alumna of UCLA Civil & Environmental Engineering, came in as one of the company representatives. We also hosted an information session for Turner Construction, a general contractor and design-build construction company, on November 6th, with about 20 students. Both Kimley-Horn & Associates and Turner Construction information sessions raised a great student interest in the respective companies since they were well-coordinated into immediate dates after the ASCE Fall Career Fair. The last information session of the quarter was held on November 12th, with Los Angeles City Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation. It held over 25 students from both Civil & Environmental Engineering and Chemical Engineering background. Altogether, it was a successful quarter hosting many information sessions with companies in different fields of industry.
Outreach
By: Davis Thomas

The outreach chair is the link between undergraduate students and the professional world. As such, the events that are organized are often considerably social in nature to foster increased ties between students, alumni, professors, and industry. In fall quarter, a Project Kickoff was held to encourage lowerclassmen to experience projects and interact with ASCE officers and industry representatives to see the ways that getting involved in projects and the club could strengthen their professional development skills as well as their social life. To better showcase the projects, representatives from Concrete Sports brought their concrete bowling ball and pins to play with. Also at the Project Kickoff, hamburgers and hotdogs were cooked, and representatives from W.E. O’Neil came out. To better the relationship between students and professors, a Student-Professor Barbeque was held at Professor Stewart’s Santa Monica household. Professors from various civil engineering disciplines came to the event to enjoy good food as well as socialize with one another and the students. Numerous grad students came out to the event as well, and with several of the students dressing in Halloween outfits for the upcoming holiday, there was a great amount of pageantry. Lastly, there was the Civil Engineering Alumni Tailgate before a UCLA football game at the Rose Bowl, which will be documented in more detail on another page.

Athletics
By: Winston Boyce

This quarter we participated in Men's Independent B IM flag football and Co-Ed IM dodgeball. Both of our teams achieved above par in the regular season as both had good enough records to make the playoffs, unfortunately that’s as far as we went as we were unable to win any IM championships this quarter. The Men’s team lost in the first round of the playoffs by 5 points and the Co-Ed dodgeball team won their first playoff game, but were unfortunately forced to play 2 games in one night back to back and fought valiantly, but lost their second game. Next quarter we have an IM sports kickoff planned to jump start the IM quarter where we will be participating in Men's Independent B IM basketball, and Co-Ed IM soccer. It is also to give us some practice time once a week in preparation for the sports at conference in which we hope to achieve victory. These sports include, but aren't limited to Co-Ed volleyball, basketball, and soccer. Depending on how everyone's schedules pan out for the quarter, we may have multiple practice days per week.
Mentorship
By: Abigail Gunning

This year for mentorship, ASCE has created “families” consisting of a fourth, a third, a second, and a first year member. These families are designed to last throughout each member’s time at UCLA to establish a lasting connection between mentees and mentors. In total we have fourteen families with over fifty members participating. Each year freshmen will be added to the pre-existing families to keep the lineage going.

We started off the year with a mentorship event at Sky High where new students and returning members got to know each other while jumping on trampolines and playing dodgeball. After the event, members were matched into families. On Family Reveal Night, members found out who is in their family by completing a scavenger hunt on campus. During seventh week, we had a class planning workshop. Jan LaBuda, the academic counselor, gave a short presentation before we broke into smaller groups to help the freshman and transfer students plan their classes. At our last mentorship event of the quarter, we had a gingerbread house building social where attendees built tasty yet edible structures.

Social
By: Vatsal Gupta

Our ever hard working engineers and project managers need an equally intense social calendar to help unwind, relax and come closer to the ASCE family. From dressing up in traditional Indian clothes for garba, the Indian dance, to Halloween socials, we had it all. This Fall saw some great events like laser tagging, pumpkin carving, the annual gingerbread house-making social and Thanksgiving Dinner at ‘Head Quarters’ (the President’s apartment). This quarter also saw the coming along of Maxwell Mondays, Winston Wednesdays and Fratsal Fridays. Here’s to a great year and a more awesome new year!
**Community Service**

By: Allison Light

ASCE’s UCLA chapter started the year off early with a blood drive to get veteran members back in the ASCE swing. A handful of members, many first time donors, came out, and many more plan on donating blood next quarter. This was a great precursor event for the rest of the quarter. On Halloween, YMF joined us at Stoner Recreation Park in West Los Angeles to run classic carnival games for the neighborhood. Our ASCE members matched the kids excitement, encouraging them to throw bean bags a little farther to get them into the clown’s mouth and to give it their all in their pitches to the wooden baseball player. Not only did the neighborhood kids have a blast, but our members had great fun connecting with the kids. UCLA ASCE finished off the quarter with a Food Bank day the week before Thanksgiving. Los Angeles Food Bank is one of the biggest in the area, and the help from our members to organize goods for delivery was much appreciated. We hope to expand the food bank group later this year to have a greater presence. Our most exciting activity is on the horizon for spring quarter, when we plan to debut our Seismic Outreach Program.

**Media**

By: Maxwell Armenta

The new ASCE – UCLA website is up and running! During the course of the summer before the 2013-2014 academic year and throughout the Fall 2013 quarter we have been creating and perfecting what is now the official ASCE, UCLA Student Chapter website. The new web address to the site is [www.ASCEUCLA.com](http://www.ASCEUCLA.com). One notable change on the new site is the website gallery which can be accessed from the site menu near the top of the page. Here photos can be accessed from several different events which have happened this year, as well as a few albums from previous years. ASCE – UCLA has also been focusing on increasing its media presence by creating an Instagram as well as utilizing other online media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. You can follow us at @ascebruins on both Instagram and Twitter. Both our Twitter and Instagram activity is going to increase tremendously over the course of Winter Quarter 2014. (so be sure “follow”, “like”, “retweet” us, etc!) It’s going to be another exciting quarter, stay up to date with the latest news from ASCE – UCLA.
Alumni Tailgate
By: Davis Thomas

On Saturday, November 30th at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, over 100 current and former students attended the Civil Engineering Alumni Tailgate. While the game itself was less satisfying than last year’s 66-10 win over Arizona, the six-hour event provided plenty of enjoyment with hamburgers and hotdogs, tailgate games, and socialization. Among the games played, there was bolo tossing, football throwing, and field goal kicking. A significant portion of the alumni at the tailgate were those that had graduated the year before and, coupled with the presence of several grad students, provided a joyous reunion after many months of not seeing each other. Also gracing the tailgate were ASCE faculty club advisor Bill Goodin and UCLA civil engineering professor Jonathan Stewart. Organized by Pat Ho and Nicky Galloway, the event also had a raffle that saw several clothing items such as t-shirts and hats given away to lucky winners. As with all tailgates, there were a significant amount of beer, included three kegs, and several of the alumni chose to partake in kegs stands among other drinking games.

ASCE PROJECTS

Projects allow students to apply their skills and classroom knowledge in a variety of ways from creating a canoe out of concrete (yes it floats) to constructing a retaining wall from construction paper. Projects give students chances to compete and succeed. Many students step into leadership roles, such as project manager, while working on projects giving them invaluable experience applicable to the real world. ASCE – UCLA offers a broad variety of projects for a total of 8, including the new ASC67 Construction project added this year. If you’re interested in getting involved or wish to reach the project manager for any of the following projects there is contact information on page 11 for each project manager.
Concrete Canoe

By: Melanie Lim

Concrete canoe kicked off the fall quarter early starting work days during second week. We casted several and tested several plates with varying lengths and amounts of graphite fiber, a replacement for the PVA fibers used in recent years. During work days we also discussed the theme for this year’s canoe. This year’s canoe will be named Imperia, and will have an art deco theme. We are currently working on designing the stands, cutaway, and canoe graphics. For Imperia’s hull, we have chosen to slightly modify the design of last year’s canoe, Meridian, by widening out the back to create more space, without compromising the maneuverability of the canoe. In our final workdays of the quarter, we began working on hand-cutting the mold, using the foam cutter from last year. While we had planned to complete the mold by the end of the quarter, we are currently behind schedule due to some unforeseen technical difficulties.

Largely with the help of Professor Stewart and Harold, we have been approved to purchase a shipping container, which will provide much needed protection for our outdoor workspace, as well as extra storage space. We are currently working with Professor Stewart for sources of funding for the container, and expect to get the container early winter quarter before casting day.

Paddling practices kicked off week four, with about ten paddlers making it out to Marina del Rey every Sunday morning. With only three returning paddlers, most of our practices consisted of teaching proper paddling technique to the new members. During our last practice of the quarter we were able to complete time trials, which helped us find our areas that need the most improvement, as well as start forming teams.

Concrete Sports

By: Clint Bannout

The Concrete Sports competition includes two events: Concrete Bowling & Concrete Horseshoes. In both competitions, our team creates a design that balances aerodynamics, strengths, and aesthetics. The rules and specifications for this competition are not released until January, which shifts our focus in fall quarter to recruiting members and teambuilding exercises.

This quarter we held three events. First, a kickoff event in Sunset Rec, where we brought out last year’s bowling ball and horseshoes to practice while enjoying some of Westwood’s famous Diddy Riese cookies. Second, an introductory workday, where we introduced the project to potential members and went over basic design ideas, last year’s design’s pros and cons, and future plans. Third, a practice session in Sunset Rec, where we fine-tuned our horseshoe pitching skills. While fall was a pretty slow quarter, we anticipate a much busier quarter in the winter. So stay tuned and thanks for the support!
**GeoWall**

By: Sean Munter

The GeoWall project is off to a good start for the fall quarter. There have been 8 team members coming consistently to workdays, 6 of which were not involved in the project last year. The year started with an introduction to the project for new members, including a PowerPoint presentation explaining the GeoWall design procedure, rules, logistics, and geotechnical engineering theory. Though it was difficult to explain two quarters worth of geotechnical engineering theory to first year civil engineering students, the basic concepts in play were successfully relayed to new members. The work that has been accomplished thus far includes performing sieve analyses on the sand and crumb rubber that the team will be using for wall testing during the winter quarter, designing wall reinforcement, performing a Consolidated Drained (CD) triaxial test on the sand/rubber mixture to determine its friction angle, and testing of different reinforcement attachment methods, reinforcement strengths, and friction angles between the soil mixture and different types of reinforcement. All of the work done thus far has been successful in obtaining the data needed to complete the design report due at the beginning of winter quarter except for tests used to determine friction angles between the soil mixture and reinforcement. In order to obtain this data, more testing will be done. For next quarter, the team expects to complete this testing, perform a slope stability analysis with a program such as SLIDE, and perform practice wall builds to fine tune and perfect our design for the regional and national competitions.

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**Environmental Design**

By: Daniel Brehm

This quarter our Environmental Design team has been keeping busy with both workdays and social events until we get our competitions rules in January. In the past, the projects have been related to finding water treatment and distribution solutions.

During fall, we spent the majority of our time going over the projects from the last couple of years: explaining our final designs, and for last year’s project, asking new members what they might have done differently. We also had some interactive demonstrations such as using our breath to blow bubbles into water (with a homemade pH indicator mixed in) to show the effects of carbon dioxide on oceanic systems. On the bonding side, we teamed up with UCLA’s Engineers without Borders to plant trees in Long Beach, a great way to become friends while helping the community. We also held a movie and pizza night where team members got to know each other better. Overall we’re gearing up for next quarter’s competition where we hope to make all of ASCE’s current members and alumni proud.
Seismic Design
By: Norman Chak

Seismic Design had a great fall quarter, well on our way to design, construct, and analyze a five foot tall balsa wood model structure. We achieved our fall quarter goal of membership retention through education and socials. Short lectures at the start of each workday helped explain design and structural mechanics. With our own SketchUp tutorial, everyone learned basic computer design skills. Movie nights and dorm dinners bonded us as together as a team.
During workdays, we constructed small frames and boxes with balsa wood, which we then tested with gravity loads. During design meetings, we came up with many different architectural designs, but have not finalized our structure. With two quarters ahead of us, we still have a lot of work to do. Receiving 1st place in the Engineering Alumni Association funding presentation certainly helped us on our path to accomplish our other aspirations for the year.

Steel Bridge
By: Lauren Yocke

Steel bridge has had a great start this past fall quarter. Not only were we able to design the bridge and connections, but we got all of our safety, equipment and welding training done as well. We hosted multiple project socials so that we could all get to know each other so that teamwork could be streamlined for next quarter. The leadership also took a welding class! The most exciting part of our quarter was the fact that we got all of our steel donated along with an additional $2200 from industry and $1200 from the UCLA Engineering Alumni Association. We look forward to a productive and fun winter quarter and hopefully a win come the spring!
Surveying
By: Kyle Tomita

This year the ASCE Surveying team is focusing on upgrading our equipment and further increasing the scope of our curriculum of land surveying techniques and concepts. In Fall quarter we solidified our strategy for obtaining and upgrading equipment including obtaining a non-reflectorless total station. Our project leaders also met with alumni and our new professional advisor Allan Ng, who is a licensed professional land surveyor in California, in order to solidify surveying knowledge and prepare for the new year. We also had a few initial meetings where we measured the change in elevation of various points around campus.

In Winter quarter we will begin training for the 2014 conference and continue teaching general land surveying techniques with hands-on experience with a level, theodolite, and total station. We hope to not only prepare our team for the conference, but to also prepare our members for surveying topics on both the F.E. and P.E. exams. So for anyone interested in learning about land surveying through both instruction and hands-on experience, the ASCE Surveying Team is the place for them!

ASC67 Construction Project
By: Paul Lee

ASC67 is excited to compete for the first time in ASC67’s (Associated Schools of Construction regions 6 & 7) student competition. The competition is hosted by the world’s top construction firms and will be held in the J.A. Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, Nevada. During this four-day event students will be asked to develop solutions for real world construction scenarios and then present their work against various other schools from the West Coast and Rocky Mountain regions.

We are thrilled to be sending two teams to compete in the Heavy Civil and Mixed Use categories. In the Heavy Civil category we have team captain Allison Light with members Vivek Manickam, Gabriel Concepcion, Kevin Bai, Maxwell Armenta, and Norman Chak. In Mixed Use we have team captain Lauren Yocke with members Yinan Pynpyn, Paul Lee, Abby Chung, and Ryan Dudley. W.E. O’Neil Construction, our proud sponsors will be supporting us as we prepare for this new project.

Although UCLA does not offer any Construction Management courses, many students have found great interest and professional careers in the field. The primary goal of UCLA’s venture into ASC67 will be to further expose students to this field of civil engineering; we also plan to have fun and show off UCLA’s competitive spirit in the process.
Contact Info

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**Interested in joining ASCE?**
...to join, simply fill out a membership form (find online on the membership page at [www.asceucla.com](http://www.asceucla.com)) and turn it in with $20 into the ASCE mail box in the Civil and Environmental Dept. Office (BH 5731). Registration comes with a free ASCE - UCLA shirt.

Regarding questions, concerns, or suggestions please feel free to contact any of the project managers or officers listed to the right.

Thank you.

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**WINTER LOOKAHEAD**

- ASCE General Meeting - 1/8
- Blood Drive Week of 1/13
- WE O’Neil Project Management Workshop - 1/14
- ASCE Annual Big Bear Ski Trip - 1/17
- Resume and Mock-interview Workshop - 1/21
- ASCE Winter Career Fair 1/30
- ASCE Leadership Workshop - 1/31
- ASC67 - 2/5-2/8
- Popsicle Stick Bridge Volunteering Event - 2/15
- Student Professor BBQ - 2/22

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Happy Holidays from ASCE!