



2020 February NEWSLETTER: THE CONNECTOR



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Illinois



LEADERSHIP & POLICY BRIEFING

ACEC Illinois President & CEO - Kevin Artl

First, I want to thank our team for an amazing Gala this year and I want to congratulate all our winners. It was an amazing night to showcase our industry in front of some of our top clients along with the state's top policymakers.

For those of you who could not attend this month's call with Congressman Dan Lipinski, the quick recap is that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee continues to meet and develop a framework for a multi-year infrastructure bill, but more work is required to bring all the parties together. TFIC is traveling to the Capitol in the second week of March to advocate for a multi-year reauthorization, I will keep you posted on developments.

[In the General Assembly, ACEC Illinois has introduced three pieces of legislation:](#)

The Retain Illinois Students of Engineering Act (RISE): creates a tax credit for companies that hire recent graduates who work in the engineering sector.

The RISE Act:

- Companies receive 10% of compensation paid for graduates of an Illinois higher-ed institution and a 5% compensation paid for graduates of an out-of-state higher-ed institution.
- The credit is capped annually at \$50,000 and may be carried forward for up to 5 years.

Senator Ram Villivalam is sponsoring the bill in the Senate and Representative Marty Moylan is sponsoring the bill in the House. ([SB3874/](#)[HB5360](#))

The Innovation Tax Credit: ACEC-Illinois proposes Illinois institute a state alternative to the R&D tax credit that is more clearly defined and would be easier for small and mid-size firms to claim. Examples of engineering R&D include efforts developing new pavement technology and new infrastructure design technology to improve efficiency and safety.

The Innovation Tax Credit:

- An income tax credit of 1.3% (6.5% of 20%) of qualified research expenses (the same percentage as the current Illinois R&D credit)
- "Qualified Research" means activities designed to promote new
 - Computer Modeling Technology;
 - 3D Modeling or Imaging Technology;
 - Public infrastructure materials
 - Public infrastructure design;

Senator Ram Villivalam is sponsoring the bill in the Senate and Representative Marty Moylan is sponsoring the bill in the House. ([SB3875/](#)[HB5359](#))

Litigation Reform in the Engineering Sector: This legislation seeks to reduce company litigation costs while still ensuring there is a path for litigation where negligence or malpractice may have

taken place.

The plaintiff in any negligence or malpractice action against a licensed architect, engineer, or surveyor shall first file an affidavit signed by a licensed architect, engineer, or surveyor, as applicable based on the license of the defendant, that states

- That in his or her opinion the standard of care was breached and that
- The proximate cause of the injury or damage was the breach in the standard of care

A defendant may request the affidavit within 56 days after the complaint is served and a court may grant the plaintiff up to 112 days to file the affidavit.

Representative Margo McDermed is sponsoring [HB 5512](#) in the Illinois House.

We are planning a [lobby day for March 24th in Springfield](#), if you would like to attend, please register by clicking this link <http://www.cvent.com/d/cnqxxn>. Also if you are planning to attend the Spring national conference in Washington, D.C, we will be planning Capitol Hill visits on April 28th and 29th.

Finally, on March 12th ACEC IL is hosting a fundraiser for Congressman Dan Lipinski. As you know, Congressman Lipinski is Illinois's senior member on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and Chairs the House Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials. If you would like more information or details to attend, please email me at kevin@acecil.org

Thank you,

Kevin Artl

President and CEO

American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois

Charles Craddock, PE Elected President and CEO of Clark Dietz, Inc.

CHAMPAIGN, IL, February 3, 2020 - As part of the planned leadership transition, Clark Dietz, Inc. has elected Charles Craddock, PE, FACEC, as President and CEO. John I. Boldt, PE, FACEC, who previously held the title of CEO/Chairman will continue as Chairman of the Board. Jerry Payonk, PE was re-elected Executive Vice President. Wesley Christmas, PE was re-elected to Treasurer. Mustafa Emir, PE, PhD was re-elected Secretary.

Other members re-elected to the board include: Sean Widener, PE (Vice President); Stacie Dovalovsky, PE (Vice President); Jon Howaniec, PHR (Vice President); Tonia Westphal, PE, LEED AP; and Kevin Hetrick, PE.

Clark Dietz, Inc. is a recognized leader in transportation, civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering with over 110 professional staff in regional offices in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Wisconsin.

Clark Dietz Announces New Shareholders

KENOSHA, WI, February 3, 2020 - Clark Dietz, Inc., one of the Midwest's leading professional consulting engineering firms has announced the election of eight new shareholders: Mary Austin, PE; Christopher J. Beyer, PE; Devin Carlson; Patrick Delp, PE; Scott Drabicki, PE; Brandon Flunker, PE, CFM; Adam Groves, PE; and Kate Kreienkamp, PE. These additions reflect the firm's commitment to recognizing the contributions of staff who demonstrate a strong work ethic, a commitment to clients, and a dedication to the betterment of the firm.

"Every year, we are proud to welcome exceptional members of our staff to our shareholder group," said John Boldt, Chairman of the Board. "These new shareholders exemplify the dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving our clients that form the cornerstones of our business. It is a great privilege to have these new shareholders vested in the success of our firm."

Clark Dietz, Inc. is a recognized leader in transportation, civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering with over 110 professional staff in regional offices in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Wisconsin.

Mathcounts Needs Your Help

Mathcounts is a nationwide 30+ year old annual math competition for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Its purpose is to encourage our youth to excel in mathematics, and to allow them to gain confidence in their math skills at a young age. The local competitions are held in conjunction with Engineer's Week throughout February.

The state finals bring together the winners of the local competitions to choose our team to represent Illinois at the national test in May.

Who hosts Mathcounts? Competitions across Illinois are hosted by local chapters of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers and American Public Works Association. The state finals are hosted by the Illinois Engineering Initiative (<https://ilengineeringinitiative.org/>) and the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers.

All competitions are run by volunteer engineers and provide a great opportunity for great minds to meet practicing professionals and learn more about our profession.

Where and when: The test will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at: Joliet Junior College Event Center 1215 Houbolt Road Joliet, Illinois 60431

If you have time to volunteer for Mathcounts this Saturday, they could use your help. Volunteers are needed for shifts from 7:30 am to 3 pm, if you can volunteer- contact Mathcounts Chair Laura McGovern at 312-285-3868 or lmcgovern@benesch.com

ENGINEERING ENTERPRISES, INC. ANNOUNCES LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Engineering Enterprises, Inc. (EEI) is excited to announce the next generation of leaders effective January 1, 2020. **Peter Wallers, P.E., CFM** has served as President and CEO of EEI since 2006 and will be transitioning to Chairman of the Board and Principal Engineer. Pete will still be involved in EEI and will continue in his current roles for the various organizations and committees that he is involved with.

Day to day control of the organization will be transitioned to **Bradley Sanderson, P.E.** who will be transitioning from Vice President to Chief Operating Officer / President and **Jeffrey Freeman, P.E., CFM, LEED AP** who will be transitioning from Vice President to Chief Executive Officer. **Denise Migliorini** will continue in her role as Chief Financial Officer / Vice President. According to Peter Wallers, Chairman, *"These individuals have demonstrated their commitment to the values that have made EEI a leader in providing engineering services. I am confident that EEI will soar to new heights under their leadership and we will stay committed to our core values."*

In addition, three new principals of the firm have been named as well: **Julie Morrison, P.E., Michele Piotrowski, P.E., LEED AP, and Stephen Dennison, P.E.** According to Peter, *"If you have worked with these individuals, you certainly know why they were chosen. They are all leaders in the engineering community and represent our core values in the truest fashion. We are very pleased to have them on our leadership team."*

Julie Morrison, P.E. has been with EEI for 20 years and holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Oklahoma State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Physics from Knox College. Julie is currently the President for the American Public Works Association Fox Valley Branch and heads up the Awards Committee.

Michele Piotrowski, P.E., LEED AP has been with EEI for 18 years and holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the Catholic University of America. She is currently working on her Master of Science in Business Administration from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana and is expected to complete it this year. Michele is also active in the Illinois Section American Water Works Association and is the Chair for the Water Efficiency committee, is a Water Loss Trainer and is involved in the Public Outreach Committee.

Stephen Dennison, P.E. has been with EEI for 16 years and holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. Steve is involved in the Illinois Water Environment Association (IWEA) and participates on the Education Committee. In addition, he also sits on the Program Committee for the Illinois Section of American Water Works Association

(ISAWWA).

Engineering Enterprises, Inc. is an award-winning consulting engineering firm providing services to public agencies throughout northeastern Illinois. Our experienced diverse staff includes licensed engineers, licensed surveyors, technicians, and support staff that provide a full range of services for planning, design, and construction of infrastructure projects, plus grant and funding assistance. For additional information visit our website at www.eeiweb.com

ENGINEERING ENTERPRISES, INC. ANNOUNCES TWO STAFF ADDITIONS TO THEIR MUNICIPAL GROUP

Jennifer A. Marten has joined the firm as a Project Engineer in the Municipal Group. She is a resident of Batavia, Illinois and holds her Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Biological Engineering with a minor in Environmental Economics and Law from the University of Illinois at Urbana -Champaign. Her previous experience in working at the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) will be valuable in her new position.

Curtis P. Dettmann, P.E., brings 15+ years of industry experience to EEI as a Project Manager to the Municipal Group. He is a resident of Westmont and holds his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University. His experience on land development projects will be of tremendous value to EEI Clients.

About Engineering Enterprises, Inc.

Engineering Enterprises, Inc., founded in 1974, is an award-winning consulting engineering firm providing services to public agencies throughout northeastern Illinois. Our experienced diverse staff includes licensed engineers, licensed surveyors, technicians, and support staff that provide a full range of services for planning, design, and construction of infrastructure projects, plus grant and funding assistance. For additional information visit our website at www.eeiweb.com

save the date UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 13 - Webinar
[Data & Analytics: How they Influence Marketing](#)
[REGISTER](#)

MARCH 19 - Sheraton, Lisle Naperville Hotel
[Winter Board Meeting](#)
[REGISTER](#)

MARCH 20 - Maggiano's in Oak Brook
[Regional Luncheon: County Engineers Panel Discussion](#)
[REGISTER](#)

MARCH 24 - Springfield, IL

Lobby Day
[REGISTER](#)

APRIL 23 - Schaumburg, IL
[Engineering with Land Acquisition in Mind](#)
Registration Coming Soon!

APRIL 26-29 - Washington D.C.
[ACEC Annual Conference and Legislative Summit](#)
[DETAILS](#)

JUNE 11 - Bloomington, IL
[ACEC Illinois Spring Meeting & Board Meeting](#)
Registration Coming Soon!

JUNE 12 - Bloomington, IL
[Spring Golf Outing](#)
Registration Coming Soon!

CHICAGO ACE MENTOR PROGRAM CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY AT ANNUAL FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

Civic and Corporate Leaders Fundraise to Support Career Mentoring & Work
Opportunities in the Design and Construction Industry

March 6th, 2020
11:00am
Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan

The Chicago ACE Mentor Program (ACE Chicago) will host its 14th Annual Benefit Luncheon at 11:00 AM on Friday, March 6, 2020 at the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan. The educational non-profit will be celebrating its 20th anniversary of offering mentoring and support to Chicago-area high-school students who have an interest in architecture, construction and engineering.

The Chicago ACE Mentor Program is a free, award-winning, after-school program designed to attract high school students into pursuing careers in the Architecture, Construction and Engineering industry, including skilled trades. This year, more than 300 Chicago industry professionals are mentoring in multi-disciplinary teams 300+ students from over 70 Chicagoland high schools through hands-on design activities, field trips to construction sites and college campuses, and designing a conceptual building project.

[Details & Registration](#)

You are Invited:
Lincoln Land Community College Applied & Emerging Technologies
Program Advisory Committee

Tuesday, March 17th
5:00-7:00pm
LLCC main campus - Trutter Center Dinner provided
Questions & RSVP: Nancy Sweet - Interim Dean, Applied Emerging Technologies
217-786-4613 or Nancy.sweet@llcc.edu

A central part of LLCC's mission is to be responsive to community needs. As a local employer or industry representative you know that your success and the strength of the local economy depend

upon a workforce that is properly trained to meet these needs. Your input at this meeting is invaluable as it directly impacts area workforce training and curriculum development. At this meeting, you will be joining a network of industry, education and community leaders working toward the common goal of maintaining and growing a skilled workforce.

Please join us at our meeting to discuss how we can improve our programming to better meet your workforce needs.

WELCOME NEW ACEC ILLINOIS MEMBERS

Material Solutions Laboratory

Illinois Employment: 14

1040 Bonaventure Dr.

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

Phone: 847.466.7216

Website: www.msl-copr.com

Pace Systems

2040 Corporate Lane

Naperville, IL 60563

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