As we move “forward,” one of my priorities is, and continues to be, creating value for you, the member.

In addition to expanding our reach within all facets of the engineering industry, we’ll be looking at ways to reinvigorate the association’s committees. New committees may be created, and existing committees will be reactivated to engage even more members in building ACEC/PA’s future.

As we map out the best ways the association can grow and flourish, each committee will play a key role by:

- Reviewing their committee description;
- Approving a mission statement for board approval;
- Creating a strategic plan, project or calendar each fiscal year and monitor/change it as needed throughout the year;
- Working to involve other members/peers to be active in the association;
- Engaging the right committee members who are passionate about sharing their time and talents;
- Partnering with the executive director to maintain and enhance their mission while using the committee to move the industry forward by means that correlate to the committee’s existence;
- Providing an agenda prior to the scheduled meeting and submitting minutes following;
- Updating the board of directors; and
- Maintain and monitor that committee work is in line with the ACEC/PA Strategic Plan.

By working together, I am confident that ACEC/PA will prosper and become a leader in the industry and among our peers.

As always, please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Leeann MacWilliams
ACEC/PA Executive Director
Member Action Needed to Address Serious Problem in House Tax Reform Bill

The House Ways and Means Committee has just released a tax reform plan that could actually raise taxes for engineering firms organized as passthrough businesses, including S corporations, partnerships, and LLCs. ACEC member firms are asked to contact their Representatives today to express their concerns about the plan. Click here for more information. You can also access a sample letter and legislative contact information by clicking here.

ACEC has emphasized to Congress that a reformed tax system needs to treat all businesses fairly and equitably, and supports provisions in the bill that lower the top corporate tax rate to 20 percent, and create a new 25 percent rate for passthrough businesses (such as S corporations, partnerships, and LLCs). However, engineering firms organized as passthroughs—which represent the majority of the industry—are excluded from the 25 percent passthrough rate. ACEC is asking you to let your Representatives know that all engineering firms should be eligible for lower tax rates.

For more information, contact Katharine Mottley at ACEC.

Pennsylvania’s Budget Package is Hit by $200 Million Lawsuit

A state-created medical malpractice insurer of last resort is asking a federal judge to block the Pennsylvania government’s demand for $200 million from its reserves and a threat to shut it down if it does not hand over the cash…Read more

U.S. House Passes Joint Employer Bill

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the “Save Local Business Act,” which would clarify the definition of “joint employment” under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act…Read more

One In, One Out of GOP Field for Pa. U.S. Senate Seat

One candidate is leaving the Republican field seeking the nomination to challenge Pennsylvania’s two-term Democratic U.S. Senator Bob Casey, while another is getting into race…Read more

Congress Moves Closer to Passing Federal Tax Reform

Last week, Congress took significant steps in the fight to reform the federal tax code for the first time in more than 30 years…Read more

ATSSA Applauds Reps. Barletta, Esty for Establishing Road Safety Caucus in House

The American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) congratulates U.S. Reps. Lou Barletta (R-Pa.) and Elizabeth Esty (D-Conn.) on launching the bipartisan Road Safety Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives. Reps. Barletta and Esty, both members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, are proven and committed leaders on roadway safety issues in Congress…Read more
ACEC/PA Fall Conference
Wednesday, Nov. 15
Hershey Lodge
Read more

November GAC Meeting with Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission CEO, Mark P. Compton and Chief Engineer, Bradley J. Heigel, P.E.
Wednesday, Nov. 15
Hershey Lodge
Read more

November Central Chapter Meeting with PennDOT Deputy Secretary for Highway Administration George W. McAuley Jr., P.E.
Wednesday, Nov. 15
Hershey Lodge
Read more

November Eastern Chapter Meeting with SEPTA General Manager Jeffrey D. Knupepp, P.E.
Tuesday, Nov. 21
Desmond Hotel
Read more
Read more
Register now

Western Chapter Meeting
Friday, Dec. 8
Cefalo's Restaurant, Carnegie, PA
Details coming soon
**COMMITTEE NEWS**

**You Are ACEC/PA**
We have 21 different committees looking for your leadership and expertise. Check out the committee page to see which one is for you. Those interested in learning more should contact the ACEC/PA office at (800) 651-1946 or ACEC/PA Executive Director Leeann MacWilliams.

**NATIONAL PARTNERS**

**ARTBA 2018 U.S. Transportation Construction Market Forecast Webinar**
Nov. 30

**Mysteries of the FAR Revealed: Using the AASHTO Audit Guide: Course One - Orlando 2018**

**Resources**

**Beware of Burnout: Avoid These 4 Obstacles to Work-Life Balance**

**ACEC Business Insurance Trust**
The ACEC Business Insurance Trust (BIT) oversees a program that provides business and professional liability insurance coverage for participating ACEC member firms. The program offers policyholders ACEC-exclusive tailored coverage along with broad policy terms and conditions. Program coverage includes automobile liability and physical damage; workers' compensation; and the "Spectrum" package policy affording protection for buildings, business personal property, money and securities, business liability, equipment breakdown, drones, cyber security, computers and media. Catastrophe liability protection is available through umbrella coverage. The business insurance plan underwriter is the Hartford. The plan administrator until Dec. 31, 2017 is Marsh USA Inc., and from Jan. 1, 2018, the plan administrator is Greyling, a division of EPIC.

**SHARE-INSPIRE-HIGHLIGHT**

ACEC/Arizona, ACEC/Connecticut and ACEC/Pennsylvania Make PAC Goals
Arizona, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania hit their PAC fundraising targets this week.

ACEC/Arizona made goal for the seventh straight year. “We believe in strength in numbers,” said PAC Champion Dave Peterson of WSP USA. “We have about 80 PAC donors statewide who are actively engaged in the program.”

At ACEC/Connecticut, PAC Champion George Jacobs of CME Engineering said, “Our state leadership fully understands the importance of maintaining a $1 Million PAC and the important role it plays in electing legislators who will support our firms on federal issues. That’s why we’ve made goal 12 years in a row.”

For 11 straight years ACEC/Pennsylvania has hit its fundraising target. PAC Champion Chris Borton of Borton-Lawson said ACEC members who participate in the PAC are responsible for the success of the advocacy effort for all engineering firms nationwide.

Other states to have reached or surpassed their PAC goals are Indiana, Wisconsin, Hawaii, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Delaware, Montana, Alabama, Illinois, Georgia, North Dakota, Alaska, Kentucky, Maryland, Florida and New York.

**Eileen Collins Joins Dewberry’s Mid-Atlantic Transportation Division**

Collins hired as department manager for firm’s traffic engineering department in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, office

Dewberry, a privately held professional services firm, announced that Eileen Collins, PE, PTOE, has been hired as the traffic engineering services department manager in the firm’s Carlisle, Pennsylvania, office.

With nearly 30 years of experience, Collins has managed a variety of highway and traffic-related projects, including interchange studies, corridor and intersection studies, project needs studies, point of access studies, traffic impact studies, safety audits, and transportation planning studies.
As the department manager for traffic engineering services, she is responsible for overseeing all traffic engineering and transportation-related services and projects for the firm’s Carlisle office. Prior to joining Dewberry, Collins worked as an engineering consultant for firms in southern Pennsylvania, and for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) in its central office.

“Eileen’s expertise in the traffic engineering field is a wonderful addition to our office,” said Dewberry Senior Vice President Bill Brown, PE. “Her background with PennDOT and knowledge of the statewide transportation industry is extremely valuable.”

Collins earned her bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Pennsylvania State University (1988) and is a professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Maryland and is a registered Professional Traffic Operations Engineer. She is a member of the American Society of Highway Engineers, mid-Atlantic section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and the Women’s Transportation Seminar.

ACEC/PA Needs Your Help

- Do you have committee news to share or know of a colleague/firm making a difference? We’d want to share that news! Please send ACEC/PA Executive Director Leeann MacWilliams the information for inclusion in an upcoming edition of forward.
- We want to communicate with you. Please take a moment to update your profile with us so you don’t miss any important news or events.

Did You Know?

- The average person spends six months of their lifetime waiting on a red light to turn green.
- Chewing gum while you cut an onion will help keep you from crying.

Connect with Us on Social Media

Follow ACEC/PA on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest company news, industry highlights and benefit from a range of useful resources.

Connect on Facebook ● Twitter ● LinkedIn