I’m excited and humbled to be able to serve as President of ACEC Indiana for the coming year. A top priority will be to continue the great work of our past presidents. I want to thank Sanjay Patel for leading our organization last year and leaving the Council in the best financial condition it has ever been in.

I also want to thank Stephanie Morse for her 22 years of service as our Executive Director. Our organization thrived under Stephanie’s tenure as she guided us through the years. One of Stephanie’s greatest accomplishments was luring Beth Bauer over to ACEC over 10 years ago. Identifying the next leader in your organization is one we all should be doing and Stephanie recognized the importance in that. We were lucky to have Beth and Colleen Merkel “waiting in the wings” to step in to fill the void of Stephanie’s retirement.

Under Beth’s guidance and leadership as our new Executive Director we are poised to take the organization another step forward this year!

Due to our solid financial position we can take more of a leadership role in advocacy. This year, we’ve created a new Transportation Funding Committee that will leverage excess funds from our association. This new committee will create a Public Outreach Campaign along with other initiatives to help educate the public of the tremendous needs vs lack of funding to tackle our transportation infrastructure issues.

We will continue to advocate for good business practices and to have a business environment our companies can be successful in. We have several goals outlined for the coming year to help us achieve this. These goals include:

- Advocate nationally for a long term highway bill that is good for Indiana. As in the past, we will have a strong contingency go to Capitol Hill in April to directly lobby our congressmen and congresswomen.
- Collaborate with INDOT, Indianapolis DPW, IDNR, IDEM and Citizens Energy Group through our committees to be industry partners with our clients and to create good business rules for our companies to operate within.
- Promote QBS throughout the state
- Provide more opportunities for member engagement by hosting member roundtables. We plan on holding a northern roundtable Fall 2015 in Warsaw and a southern roundtable in Evansville Spring 2016.
- Continue to advocate for more State infrastructure funding for both Transportation and Water/Wastewater. I’m optimistic the statehouse will soon address these needs and we will be there alongside them providing information and pushing to implement long term, dedicated funding solutions.
- Give back more in engineering scholarships either in higher amounts or to more recipients
- Continue our streak of being the first State to meet the federal PAC goals – We’ve done this two years in a row so let’s make it three!

We also hope to expand Engineer’s Week opportunities for members to get involved with high schools throughout Indiana as INDOT has agreed to expand their involvement across the state. The Education Committee will continue to look for more professional development opportunities for our member firms.

Many of you have stepped up in contributing to advancing these initiatives and I thank you. I especially thank the Committee Chairs and our Board for their leadership in helping position our Council for a prosperous future.

Sincerely,
Scott Hornsby, P.E., GAI Consultants
ACEC Indiana President

Please join ACEC Indiana for one of the following events:

- Sept. 3 – INDOT Commissioner Brandye Hendrickson Luncheon
- Sept. 17 – Environmental Business Conference
- Oct. 29 – Diversity Networking Fair

**click here for details and to register online**