It is that time of year again when the cool weather arrives, the trees are changing to their beautiful colors and our Fall Conference is just around the corner. 2020 has been an ADVENTURE to say the least. We have traveled through mountains that we were not sure we could climb above to the peak with the rise in COVID-19 cases, project stoppage, new guidelines and regulations and the daily, sometimes twice daily changes the virus has brought not only to Americans but the entire world. We had lows journeying through valleys of time when we all felt like it was a waiting game even though so much was at stake. We could only do what was in our power to make it better.

We have not seemed to find a resting spot and continue to navigate the waters. We are learning so many new things including how to traverse the terrain before us through virtual meetings, home schooling and sharing of ideas virtually with peers.

So, we ask the question …Will you take an ADVENTURE and join us for the virtual 2020 ACEC/PA Fall Conference on November 12-13? The virtual conference platform will allow you to chat with exhibitors and download materials; gain a minimum of seven PDHs (professional development hours); visit Digital Connection Rooms where you can have open conversations with a small group of peers as if you were in-person; listen to speakers providing extraordinary content; "stop by" the Main Lobby to access a variety of resources; gain points for the Gamification leaderboard through a series of conference interaction options; and if registered during the early bird pricing of $99, will be guaranteed to receive a special pre-conference gift mailed directly to the registrant with supplies for the ADVENTURE.

Visit our 2020 ACEC/PA Fall Conference webpage to learn more about the speakers, to sponsor and register today! We look forward to having you Take the ADVENTURE with Us!

Leeann

Leeann Sherman, MPS, CAE
Executive Director
Republican Sen. Pat Toomey to retire, opening up 2022 race In Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Republican Sen. Pat Toomey jolted a new political fight for 2022, announcing Monday that he’ll retire from the Senate at the end of his current term and won't mount a bid to become the state's next governor…Read more

Logistics, not partisan tampering, stand best chance at influencing election
President Donald Trump has used striking imagery from Pennsylvania to call into question the integrity of November’s election — from military ballots discarded in waste-paper baskets to “bad things” happening in Philadelphia’s county offices…Read more

Auditor General finds inconsistencies in Wolf administration business closure mandates
Last week, Auditor General Eugene DePasquale announced some initial findings related to an audit being conducted of the Wolf Administration’s handling of the business closures mandates that were ordered in March in response to COVID-19…Read more

PPP loan tax exemption bill advances; streamlined new PPP application process available
Lawmakers on the state Senate Finance Committee advanced legislation last week that would exempt from state or local taxation loans provided to businesses under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act that were subsequently forgiven…Read more

Wolf administration amends occupancy guidelines
Last week, Gov. Tom Wolf and Department of Health Secretary Dr. Rachel Levine amended guidelines regarding gathering limits while still maintaining state and CDC-issued safety standards that include mask wearing and social distancing…Read more
PA roundabouts show safer habits through statistics
Roundabouts offer improved safety over other at-grade intersection forms primarily because roundabouts have fewer conflict points, slower speeds, and easier decision making…Read more

Trump is coming to Johnstown as Pennsylvania looks more important by the day
The occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue increasingly looks as if it could be decided by voters in Pennsylvania towns like this one…Read more

DEP: 2019 was a big year for natural gas production in Pa. This is how big
Last month, the state Department of Environmental Protection dropped the latest numbers on oil and natural gas production in the commonwealth…Read more

Did you join us on Oct.13 for the COVID Impact for State & Local Tax virtual meeting presented by Stambaugh Ness? If not, you can view the recording of the meeting and the slide presentation on our virtual meeting webpage.

2020-2021 Calendar of Events
Please mark your calendars for these important dates of our upcoming conferences, networking, educational opportunities, scholarship fundraising, board meetings and more.

Monthly PennDOT Clearance Transmittal Webinar
October 15 ● 1 p.m.
Join Skype Meeting
Toll number: (267) 332-8737
Conference ID: 56863635
Eastern Chapter Meeting with Api Appulingam, P.E., Deputy Director of Aviation, Capital Development, Philadelphia Airport/Northeast Philadelphia Airport
October 20 ● virtual
Register

ACEC/PA Fall Conference
November 12-13 ● virtual
Sponsorships are available
Registration now

ACEC/PA Diamond Awards
January 28, 2021
Nominations are open for three (3) special awards given out during the 2021 Diamond Awards for Engineering Excellence event on Jan. 28, 2020. Deadline for nominations is noon, November 6.

Client of Distinction Award will recognize an individual or group of individuals in the private or public sector who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement and growth of the consulting engineering profession.

Distinguished Award of Merit will recognize an individual in the engineering profession who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the consulting engineering profession and service to ACEC/PA.

Diversity & Inclusion Award will recognize a firm’s efforts for Diversity & Inclusion in three of the seven focus areas. Areas include Formal Program Development, Recruiting Strategies, Training Initiatives, Workforce Diversity, Promotion and Pay Equity, Business Diversity, and Community Outreach.

ACEC/PA Spring Conference
May 12-14, 2021

COMMITTEE NEWS
You Are ACEC/PA
We have 22 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 Sherman.

PARTNERS
AASHTO Technical Committee
ACEC has been collaborating with the AASHTO Technical Committee on Project Management on the development of a survey of A/E firms that work for State DOTs. The survey covers a wide range of procurement and contracting issues.

The survey is based on an update of survey results published in the 2008 AASHTO Guide for Consultant Contracting, on which ACEC also collaborated. The TCPM would like to receive responses from the broad transportation consultant community, so the more participants the better.

For firms with multiple offices in a state, they would like to get one representative response from each firm location. Firm names and contact information will not be published with the survey results. The survey is open now and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. It will close on October 31, 2020.

Survey responses will be shared with the State DOT members of the committee and ACEC. The hope is to identify areas for coordinated improvement in DOT procurement practices, targeted both at the state level as well as nationally, where necessary.

If you have any questions, contact Matt Reiffer, ACEC Vice President, Infrastructure Programs, (202) 682-4308; mreiffer@acec.org

ARTBA 2020 Northeastern Regional Meeting
November 4-5 ● virtual
Register here

York College Engineering Students Seeking Co-ops
York College engineering students are currently seeking co-ops in a variety of industries for spring and summer 2021.

“Our students are ready to work for your company,” said Kelly Arcieri, Co-op Advisor. “The York College co-op is immersive. Students work for their employers full-time during the co-op with no class responsibilities. We want the students to know what it’s like to work in the engineering field.”

The York College co-op program runs year-round, with a different cohort of students working at co-ops each semester. Students graduate in four years, with one full year of work experience. “The York College engineering major is unique,” said Arcieri. “Most co-op programs are five years. York College students take classes and co-op through the summers. The program is intense.”

Juniors are looking for spring semester co-ops, which can run from mid-December through mid-May. Sophomores are looking for summer 2021. If your business has a co-op need, please reach out to Kelly Arcieri at karcieri@ycp.edu or 717-815-2075.

York College’s engineering program was established in 1995 with mechanical engineering. Electrical and computer engineering were added in the early 2000s, and civil engineering started in 2016. The engineering departments are part of The Kinsley
School of Engineering, Sciences and Technology at York College, a private college in York PA serving residential and commuter students.

**IBTTA Spring Meeting**  
May 1-4, 2021 ● Atlanta  
[Register]

**RESOURCES**

**PSPE Emerging Technology: a Public Regulatory Policy Guide**  
[Read it here]

**R3 Action Center**  
[Learn more]

**ACEC Inclusion and Diversity**  
[View more here]

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**SHARE-INSPIRE-HIGHLIGHT**

**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 Sherman] 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?**  
Chuck Yeager blasted through the sound barrier at Edwards Air Force Base in 1947.

**Connect with Us on Social Media**

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