

With seven concurrent tracks and a total of 70 Sessions, the 2004 Structures Congress & Exposition successfully brought together academia and practicing engineers for the purpose of driving practical application of cutting-edge research. The nine topics highlighted in this year's congress include: innovations in infrastructure design; recent trends in transportation structures, design approaches for different model building codes; restoration and repair of existing structures; seismic design concepts; project delivery systems; business and professional practice in structural engineering; ongoing theoretical and experimental research activities; and computational methods. In addition to the extraordinary technical content, the Structures Congress included a plenary session with the annual SEI business meeting, the SEI Awards luncheon, a diversity luncheon and networking receptions.

Plenary and Business Meeting

In his welcoming remarks, the 2004 Structures Congress planning committee chair, Thomas S. Tarpay Jr., Ph.D., P.E., noted the exceptional program that was in store for the next several days. Tarpay added that ASCE Nashville Branch's participation in this year's Structures Congress greatly enhanced the program.

ASCE President-elect William P. Henry, P.E., F.ASCE, encouraged all engineers to go beyond the technical aspects and become community leaders.

"As engineering professionals, we need to get the word out on what we do," remarked Mr. Henry. "Go beyond the technical aspects of our profession and become engaged as leaders in public policy issues." Garland Rose Jr., P.E., F.ASCE, ASCE Director, also welcomed the attendees on behalf of ASCE Zone 9 and the Nashville Branch.

The Keynote speaker, John Roberts, Ph.D., F.REng, B.Eng, F.I.C.E., F.I.Struct.E., presented insights into the spectacular feats of structural engineering — and political savvy — required to build the London Eye. Roberts, one of the UK's leading theme park ride design engineers, illustrated in captivating detail the immense planning and effort that went into design and construction of the three-year project. Each step of the way presented seemingly insurmountable challenges.

Immediately following the Plenary Session, SEI President, Jeremy Isenberg, Ph.D., reviewed SEI's impressive progress over the past year. He encouraged SEI members to promote separate licensing for structural engineers, support the SEI endowment fund, join the Risk Management Program initiative and support the ASCE governance restructuring proposal.

SEI Director, James Rossberg, P.E., concluded the business session by outlining SEI's current activities, financial strength and future plans among its four divisions. Highlights include the new SEI Web site, SEI Update, local and online seminars, and the new Web-based balloting system.

ASCE's Committee on Diversity and Women in Civil Engineers (CDWCE) held a diversity luncheon for 35 attendees. The guest speaker, Juli H. Mosley, P.E., Vice President of Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon, Inc. (BWSC), shared personal stories of her journey to success in the civil engineering profession. She pointed out that she had a clear theme which guided her entry and success into the traditionally white-male dominated civil engineering profession: *persistence, curiosity and an ever-present mentor*. Ms. Mosley then acknowledged Garland P. Rose, Jr., P.E., F.ASCE, who, having recognized that more women were needed to round out the BWSC engineering workforce, hired her along with four other women. She said that Mr. Rose made sure that the women he hired were provided with what they needed in order to be successful.

According to CDWCE's representative Dr. William M. Hayden Jr., P.E., F.ASCE, the feedback from attendees at the luncheon was enlightening. Comments included how the women in civil engineering educational careers remain stymied in furthering their careers at the same pace as their male counterparts. He added that the general feeling was that current department heads, chairs, and deans have mastered the talk-the-talk part, including the release of documents supporting diversity. However, evidence of their walk-the-talk is significantly lower than desired when one reviews the data. Another interesting remark made was, that one of the constraints to having women and other underrepresented groups enter and persist in the civil engineering profession is the lack of people who look like them at the front of the classroom, in the dean's office, and at other places of power in-between. Finally, it was suggested that the CDWCE target women in education as well as recognize those unheralded mentors who provided the support to encourage and shape the careers of women and other underrepresented groups.



John Roberts describes the challenges of designing the London Eye.

SEI Awards Luncheon

Robert Ratay, Chair of SEI Awards Committee, was the master of ceremonies and Jeremy Isenberg, SEI President, presented the awards. The keynote speaker, Kurt Swensson, Ph.D., P.E., of KSI Structural Engineers, discussed the design and construction of the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, which is currently under construction.

The **Dennis L. Tewksbury Award** recognizes distinguished service to the Institute. The 2004 Award was presented to **John Tawresey, S.E.**, for his long service to the Institute and particularly for his wise and dedicated leadership during his two years as President of the Board of Governors.

The **Walter P. Moore Jr. Award** honors Walter P. Moore Jr. for his dedication to and technical expertise in the development of structural codes and standards. The 2004 Award was presented to **Theodore Galambos, Ph.D.** Dr Galambos is an exceptional civil engineer whose notable contribution to structural engineering include the development of the Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) Specification, the nation's current specification for the design of steel buildings, published by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC).

The **Gene Wilhoite Innovations in Transmission Line Engineering Award** is presented to a member (or members) of the Society who has (have) made significant contributions to the advancement of the art and science of transmission line engineering. The 2004 Award was presented to **C. Jerry Wong, Ph.D., P.E.**

The **George Winter Award** is intended to recognize the achievements of an active structural engineering researcher, educator or practitioner who best typifies the late Dr. Winter's humanistic approach to his profession. The 2004 Award was presented to **Reidar BJORHOVDE, Ph.D., P.E.**, "In recognition of his many engineering achievements and his contributions to the arts in the Pittsburgh and Tucson communities."

The **Raymond C. Reese Research Prize** is awarded to the author(s) of a paper published by ASCE that describes a notable achievement in research related to structural engineering and recommends how the results of the research can be applied to design. The 2004 award was presented to **Professor Bruno Massicotte, Ph.D, P.E., Thierry Chicoine, Ph.D., P.E., and Professor Robert Tremblay, Ph.D., P.E.**, for their paper, "Long-Term Behavior and Strength of Partially Encased Composite Columns Made with Built-Up Steel Shapes," *Journal of Structural Engineering, February 2003.*

The **Moisseiff Award** is presented to the author(s) of an important paper published by ASCE dealing with the broad field of structural engineering including applied mechanics, theoretical analysis or constructive improvement of engineering structures of any structural material. The 2004 award was presented to **Cole C. McDaniel, Ph.D., P.E., Chia-Ming Uang, Ph.D., and Frieder Seible, Ph.D., P.E.**, for their paper, "Cyclic Testing of Built-Up Steel Shear Links for the New Bay Bridge," *Journal of Structural Engineering, June 2003.*

The **Ernest E. Howard Award** is presented annually to a member of ASCE who has made a definite contribution to the advancement of structural engineering, either in research, planning, design, construction or methods and materials. The 2004 award was presented to **Neil Hawkins, Ph.D.**, for his contribution to the advancement of structural engineering through research, lecturing and education of engineers in the US, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China and other countries around the globe.

The **T.Y. Lin Award** is presented annually in order to recognize and encourage the preparation of meaningful papers in the field of prestressed concrete. The 2004 award was presented to **Robert**



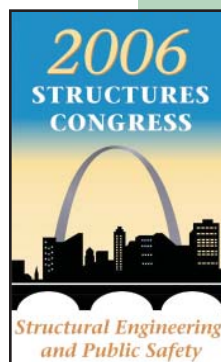
2004 SEI/ASCE award winners from left to right: Reidar BJORHOVDE, Neil Hawkins, Subash Goel, Cole McDaniel, Theodore Galambos, John Tawressey, Robert Ratay, Jeremy Isenberg, C. Jerry Wong, Brett Kaufmann (accepted award for Robert Englekirk), Chia-Ming Uang and Thierry Chicoine.

E. Englekirk, Ph.D., for his paper, "Design-Construction of the Paramount – A 9-Story Precast Prestressed Concrete Apartment Building," *PCI Journal, July/August 2002.*

The **Shortridge Hardesty Award** is presented annually to honor the individual(s) who has (have) applied successfully the fundamental results of research to the solution of practical engineering problems in the field of structural stability. The 2004 award was presented to **Subash C. Goel, Ph.D.**, "In recognition of many substantial contributions and long lasting impact within the areas of stability research and seismic resistant design."

Best Presentation Awards

This is the third year in a row that the Business and Professional Activities Division has administered awards for the best presentations at the Structures Congress. Congress attendees who voted for their favorite presentations were then placed in a drawing for a free set of ASCE/SEI design standards. Jim Harris won the buildings category with his presentation "New Simplified Seismic Provisions for ASCE/SEI 7-05." Gary Consolazio won the transportation category with "A comparison of Barge Impact Loads." Stephanie Young of Minneapolis, Minn. won the drawing for the free standards. ■



Upcoming Structures Congresses

2005 – New York City
April 20-23
2006 – St. Louis, Mo.
May 18-21

