



Steve Schaefer Wins CASE Past Chairmen's Award

Long time CASE member Steven E. Schaefer of Steven Schaefer Associates, Cincinnati, OH, was chosen for the 2005 CASE Past Chairmen's Award for outstanding service to the profession of structural engineering. Mr. Schaefer is a former officer, committee chairman of CASE and currently serves on the editorial



Past Chairman David I. Ruby presents Steve Schaefer with his award.

board of STRUCTURE magazine. He was and is responsible for writing articles and obtaining authors for others, as well as being a watchdog of the quality of the content of what appears in the magazine. He was presented with the award by CASE past Chairman David I. Ruby at the CASE Awards Reception at the ACEC convention in Washington DC. ■

Association Health Plans May Reduce Health Care Costs for Members

Federal legislation that would reduce the administrative burdens placed on ACEC's Association Health Plan—the ACEC Life/Health Trust—took one step closer to enactment as the House Committee on Education and the Workforce passed H.R. 525, the Small Business Health Fairness Act, out of committee this week.

ACEC is one of the few associations that offers an Association Health Plan (AHP) to its members. Conflicting state regulations cause higher administrative costs and prevent many ACEC members from accessing the association's low-cost, quality health care program.

The Small Business Health Fairness Act would remedy this situation by creating uniform regulations for all states and allowing firms of all sizes to be covered.

The measure will go to the House floor for consideration next month, where it is expected to receive strong, bipartisan support. A more difficult fight is expected in the Senate, although a number of newly elected Senators supported by ACEC in the last election cycle have indicated their intention to support this legislation.

"Health care costs affect the bottom line of every engineering firm," said Roger Jacobson of Engineering Associates Inc. in Cody, Wyoming. "This legislation will help to keep those costs down, which is why we need a strong showing next month at Consulting Congress Day to carry this message to Congress."

Passing AHP legislation in 2005 will be one of the key issues that ACEC's "citizen lobbyists" will take to Capitol Hill next month during the Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. ■

Register Now For ACEC's Next Great Event! 2005 Fall Conference in Orlando

Make your travel plans now!

ACEC's 2005 Fall Conference, September 21-24 in Walt Disney World, Florida.

All events take place at Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort in Walt Disney World®, Florida. ACEC's special room rate is \$189, single/double occupancy, plus tax. ACEC's room block is at both complexes with a majority of the rooms at the Yacht Club. Conference events take place at the Yacht Club convention facility.

Book your hotel reservations by **August 19** to get your first choice of rooms. Call the resort directly at 407-934-3372 and reference ACEC. The discounted room rates are available through the cut-off date or until the rooms in each block are sold out, whichever occurs first. Your patronage to the official conference hotel makes it possible for ACEC to secure the meeting space needed for the conference. ■

We look forward to welcoming you to Florida!

For preliminary conference information,

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CASE Risk Management Convocation Set for November 4th and 5th in Dallas

Mark your calendars now!

Following on last year's successful Convocation, another day and a half program will concentrate on risk management/loss prevention for structural engineering firms. The program is meant to reach down to the project manager level, where frequent decisions are made that can have either disastrous implications or lead to greater profitability depending on how they are made. So make plans for all your decision-makers at

all levels to attend. This is a "CASE Bottom Line Program" that can have a direct impact on the success of your firm. You will hear "horror stories" that could have been prevented and "success stories" where disaster was averted. But most of all, you and the people responsible in your firm for bringing a project to completion will be more knowledgeable on how to do it after you leave the conference. Watch this space for more detailed information. ■

November Convocation

"We still have a problem....solutions begin with us..."

to be theme of CASE Risk Management Program's convocation, November 4th and 5th in Dallas

The CASE Risk Management Program's(RMP) vision is to be the leading provider of risk management education and technology for use in the practice of structural engineering. RMP Committee meetings were held April 29th in Dallas, to plan how the organization will fulfill its mission to improve the practice of structural engineering by reducing the frequency and severity of claims made against structural engineers.

The RMP division of CASE is made up of three committees: an **Insurance Engagement** committee to work with the professional liability insurers, a **Convocation** committee to plan and organize the annual RMP convocation and the **Toolkit** committee which develops tools to improve our practice. CASE's National Guidelines Committee and Contracts Committee have been assigned to the Business Practices Division.

The Toolkit committee has put together a program that it calls the "Foundations for Risk Management". This is a 10 item list of professional practice issues that a structural engineering firm must adopt to successfully confront the problems of risk management. Look for an article on this topic in the August issue of STRUCTURE!

In addition to the annual convocation, the Toolkit committee of RMP will communicate with its members and subscribers through web seminars, periodic e-mails and magazine articles. Plan now to attend the RMP convocation in Dallas on Friday and Saturday, November 4th and 5th, 2005. Read STRUCTURE for additional convocation details and how to participate in the CASE RMP. If you would like to be sent RMP information directly, please e-mail John Dal Pino at JDalpino@degenkolb.com. ■

James E. Trant to Lead CASE in 2005-06 as Chairman

James E. Trant is currently a principal with the Boston Office of Carter & Burgess, Inc, leading a diversified staff of Architects and Building Engineers (Structural, Mechanical and Electrical) as well as Civil Engineers. They are primarily involved in the design, expansion and renovation of low rise commercial and retail buildings from 10,000 SF to 1,000,000 SF in states east of the Mississippi River and Texas. He is an active participant in professional organizations including American Council of Engineering Companies (member of Risk Management Committee), National Council of Examiners for Engineering and



Incoming CASE Chairman James E. Trant thanks outgoing Chairman Lance Atkins for his service

Surveying (member of Structural Exam Committee), ASCE, SEI and NSPE. He is also a former member of the Division of Capital Asset Management Designer Selection Board for professional services to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mr. Trant is also active in local community based groups including the Billerica Little League (manager of teams at all levels, player agent and former Executive Board member), Billerica Youth Basketball (former Coach at several levels of play), Religious Education teacher for over 20 years (8th grade) and founding member of the St. Theresa's Marriage Preparation Program. ■

For a free hard copy of the CASE Contract between Owner and Structural Engineer for Project Peer Review Services send an email with your name, firm and address to ebajer@acec.org.

