



CASE Leadership Slate for 2005-06

Here is a list and brief bio's of the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee to lead CASE in 2005-06. Their term of office will begin at the CASE events at the ACEC convention in April in Washington, DC.

CASE In Point CASE is a part of the American Council of Engineering Companies

JAMES E. TRANT, *Chairman*

James E. Trant, P.E., S.E. is Vice President and Senior Structural Engineer for the Boston office of Carter & Burgess. Mr. Trant has been employed with C&B for over 4 years and was a Principal and Chief Structural Engineer with Sumner Schein Architect and Engineers for the previous 17 years. He obtained a Master of Science in Civil (Structural) Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University in Boston, MA in 1977 and 1971 respectively. He is a licensed design professional in 24 States. He is also a member of the Structural Exam Committee for NCEES and an active member of the ACEC Risk Management Committee. He is currently a member (former Chair) of the CASE Business Practices Committee. He is an avid Bass fisherman.

EDWARD W. PENCE, JR., *Chairman-Elect*

Edward W. Pence, Jr. is Senior Vice President for the regional structural engineering firm Stroud, Pence & Associates, Ltd. headquartered in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He earned a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1973, and a M.E. in Structural and Geotechnical Engineering from Old Dominion University in 1978. He is a registered Professional Engineer in 15 states. He is a former chairman of the Virginia Structural Engineers Council (VSEC). He is on the National Practice Guidelines Committee for Special Inspections for the Coalition of American Structural Engineers (CASE), is an active Technical Peer Reviewer for the Structural Engineering Risk Management Council (SERMC), and has co-authored several SERMC publications dealing with loss prevention and risk management.

BOB BARNETT, *Vice Chair*

Bob Barnett is the owner of Barnett Associates with offices in Pell City and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He has been active in CASE since its inception, serving on several committees. In addition to CASE, he has served on committees in ACEC and has been the President of ACEC Alabama. He has also been active in ASCE and ACI, serving on several committees in each, and is a frequent presenter of papers at national conventions. Bob is active in his community and has served as President of the Chamber, Industrial Development Board and the Boy Scouts. He is currently the Vice Chair of the St. Clair Regional Hospital and serves on the Board of Trustees for the Alabama Hospital Association. During his spare time you can find Bob and his wife Carole on "Surprise," sailing in the Gulf of Mexico.

CHRIS D. POLAND, *Secretary*

Chris Poland is Chairman, President and CEO of Degenkolb Engineers in San Francisco, CA. He has served as the President and CEO of this 63 year old firm since 1990 and was the CFO from 1985 to 1996. He has also contributed significantly to the structural engineering profession through his participation in developing important state and federal standards, and guiding associations such as the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, and is now past president of the organization. He chairs the ASCE Rehabilitation Standards Committee, currently in the process of converting both FEMA 310 and 356 into Standards for use by building officials. Previously Chris served as Chairman of the Vision 2000 Comm. of SEAOC, which developed Performance Based Seismic Engineering of Buildings: Interim Recommendations, published in 1995

JAMES C. PARKER, *Treasurer*

James C. Parker, Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger, Waltham, MA, received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and his M. Eng in Structural Engineering from Cornell University. He joined SGH in 1985 and currently is a Principal in the firm. Mr. Parker has worked extensively with an international consumer products company, performing seismic assessments of structures in areas of significant seismic risk worldwide. Mr. Parker performed post-earthquake damage assessment following the 1999 earthquake in Izmit, Turkey, the 1995 earthquake in Kobe, Japan and the 1994 earthquake in Northridge, California. His recent professional activities include the ASCE Seismic Rehabilitation Committee for the FEMA 310 and FEMA 356 update projects, as well as the ASCE 31 Seismic Evaluation of Existing Buildings. He is currently a member of the CASE Guidelines Committee.

ANDREW M. RAUCH, *Director*

Andrew M. Rauch is a principal with BKBM Engineers in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He received a Bachelor of Civil Engineering Degree with high distinction from the University of Minnesota in 1983. He has 21 years experience in the design of a wide variety of structures including institutional facilities, schools, office buildings, commercial structures and renovations. At BKBM, he is responsible for risk management and quality assurance, including structural technical issues such as specifications and design criteria.



NILS V. (VAL) ERICSON,
Director

Mr. Ericson is a principal with the DiSalvo Ericson Group and past president of the Board of Directors of the ACEC/CT (American Consulting Engineers Council of Connecticut). He is past president of Connecticut's Structural Engineers Coalition and has served on that organization's Board of Directors. He has served as active Peer Reviewer for both the Structural Engineers Risk Management Council and the American Council of Engineering Companies. In his capacity as Peer Reviewer, he has reviewed and advised over forty structural engineering firms across the country with regard to improving both the practice of structural engineering and the management of engineering firms. BSCE, Polytechnic University Brooklyn, NY 1972.

DOUGLAS N. ELLIOTT,
Director

Doug Elliott has 42 years of experience in structural engineering. He has served as a structural engineering principal since 1968 and is currently President of Elliott LeBoeuf & Associates in Alexandria, VA. Mr. Elliott received a B.S. degree in Architectural Engineering from Virginia Tech and a M.S. degree in Civil Engineering from George Washington University.

Mr. Elliott has been responsible for hundreds of structural engineering building projects in the Washington, D.C. area, involving such buildings as the Washington Monument, Old Executive Office Building, FBI & CIA Headquarters, Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution. He has also traveled to 40 foreign cities on embassy projects for the U. S. Department of State.

ACEC Salary & Benefits Report

Do you know the average CEO salary at an engineering firm? Employee perks? Training methods offered by employers? Conducted in September 2003, this survey includes a salary breakdown for staff members by region. Originally \$149, order this valuable publication now for only \$99 and find out about these statistics and more.

Go to www.acec.org/publications and type "salary" in the search box. Web pages to note as graphics or pull quotes one per page:

CASE—www.acec.org/case
CASE Risk Management Program—www.acec.org/rmp

AIA Requests CASE input into A-201 and B-141

The CASE Contracts Committee chaired by Andy Ouzonian, Weidlinger Associates, New York, has been asked by the American Institute of Architects staff to attend their contracts committee meeting in April for the purpose of providing direct input into AIA contracts. The contracts for which AIA is requesting input is A-201, Standard General Conditions and B-141, agreement between owner and architect. CASE has long had commentary documents on both of these contracts as well as C-141, agreement between architect and consultant. Most structural engineers are well acquainted with these documents that are widely used in the industry. This is the first time however that CASE has been asked to attend a meeting with the drafters of the documents. CASE also has corresponding commentaries to similar EJCDC (Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee) contracts. ■



Senate Passes ACEC-supported Class Action Reform Legislation

With strong bipartisan support, the Senate this week passed S. 5, the Class Action Fairness Act, which seeks to control runaway class action lawsuits. The House is expected to consider and easily pass this legislation as early as the week of February 14.

The Class Action Fairness Act addresses the abuses of the system by allowing multi-state class action litigants to move their cases from state to federal court, thus avoiding "judicial hellholes" or certain state courts known for anti-business jurors and outrageous jury awards.

"Passage of S. 5 is an important step in protecting our businesses from frivolous lawsuits or the gaming of the system to keep cases in lenient state courts," said ACEC Chairman Bill Howard. He added that "class action abuse is a major reason

why our tort costs reached \$246 billion in 2003. More and more engineers are becoming the answer to, 'who else can we sue?' in a legal system that is out of balance. S.5 is a first step to redressing the balance."

S. 5 is the first component of a larger tort reform effort backed by the Council, which includes legislation to curb runaway medical malpractice awards that drive up the cost of health insurance for engineering firms. ACEC and other business groups hope that passage of class action reform will lead to broader tort reforms, including Good Samaritan protections and joint and several liability reforms. ■

