



Local Structural Technical Groups Affiliate with SEI

The Pittsburgh, Maryland and St. Louis Sections recently adopted new names to affiliate with the Structural Engineering Institute. The official names are the “Structural Engineering Institute Chapter, Pittsburgh Section of ASCE”, the “Structural Engineering Institute Chapter, Maryland Section of ASCE” and the “Structural Engineering Institute Chapter, St. Louis Section of ASCE.” The efforts were led by Brian J. Leshko, PE, for the Pittsburgh Section, Jim J. Zhao, PE, of the Maryland Section and Marc Bacchetti, PE, SE, with the St. Louis Section.

The Local Activities Division (LAD) of the Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) is requesting that local structural technical groups follow the lead of ASCE in associating groups with SEI. In addition, sections and branches without structural technical groups are asked to form local chapters of SEI.

The benefits of the association include national name recognition and improved coordination between chapters. By bringing together local chapters, more opportunities will be available to share ideas and learn how issues facing the structural engineering profession are dealt with in other parts of the country.

Brian Leshko, Past-Chair of SEI’s LAD Executive Committee, worked with the support of the Pittsburgh Section to develop templates for transforming or forming SEI local chapters. To obtain these templates or for further information, please contact Mary Ellen Saville, Administrator, Structural Engineering

Institute of ASCE at mesaville@asce.org or by phone: (703) 295-6195.

On November 12, 2004, a Meeting of SEI Local Chapter/Local Structure Technical Group Chairs was held at the Omni Royal Orleans in New Orleans, LA. Thirty attendees participated in the interaction among structural engineering leaders. The most beneficial discussions resulted from the presentations that each chapter or group representative made summarizing their activities, successes, membership, attendance and partnering activities.

Many of the attendees stayed an additional day to participate in the

“Separate Structural Engineering Licensing Strategy Workshop”, which was held on November 13, 2004 at the same venue. The goal of the workshop was to continue SEI’s resolution to “support separate licensing of structural engineers and to support and encourage activities to achieve this goal in each state and other jurisdictions.” The local Chairs were able to give their input from the grassroots perspective. The Licensure Workshop had presentations, and discussions of individual state cases, then breakouts to glean further information. A final report will be available in the near future.■



*A representation of some of the 47 attendees in New Orleans
L to R: Ali Khan (Philadelphia Section), Hamid Adib (SEI BOG-LAD Rep., New York City), Mary Ellen Saville (SEI Administrator, Reston, VA), Susan Jorgensen (Omaha Section), Taka Kimura (Denver Section)*

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