

February 2026



February President's Column

By Romulos P. Ragudos, Jr.

ASCE Seattle Section President

Hello Seattle Section,

Our next Dinner Meeting will be March 26 with our local Geotechnical/Geo-Institute Chapter. Additional information will be sent out soon.

Seattle Section has several events coming up this month, including fundraising support for our YMF and Student Chapters so please read to the end and we hope to see you there!

If you are looking to get more involved with ASCE, we have many opportunities available so please feel free to contact me at president@seattleasce.org.

Stay updated on our latest events, please check out our Section Website, subscribe to the newsletter and follow us on LinkedIn.

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MARCH 2026
NEWSLETTER CONTENT
DEADLINE:
February 20, 2026

Local Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievements Award (LOCEA) 2026 - Applications are Open!



The poster features the title 'locea project awards 2026' in large, stylized orange and grey text on the left. In the top right corner is the ASCE Seattle Section logo. To the right of the title, it says 'applications due by: mar. 27, 2026'. Below this, the word 'categories:' is written in a decorative font, flanked by ornate flourishes. A list of categories follows, each preceded by a circular icon: Geotechnical, Transportation & Development, Water Resources / Environmental (with a leaf icon and 'updated!'), Structures, Small Project & Non-Construction Study, Ports & Waterways, Preservation (with a leaf icon and 'new category!'), and Disaster Resiliency (with a leaf icon and 'new category!').

locea
project
awards
2026

ASCE
SEATTLE SECTION

applications due by:
mar. 27, 2026

categories:

- **Geotechnical**
- **Transportation & Development**
- **Water Resources / Environmental updated!**
- **Structures**
- **Small Project & Non-Construction Study**
- **Ports & Waterways**
- **Preservation new category!**
- **Disaster Resiliency new category!**

Project award applications are now open for the LOCEA Awards! Apply now!

For more information, check out this PDF: [2026 LOCEA Projects Application](#)

Note: Individual award applications will be released in mid-February. Please note that new individual award categories have been added this year to better recognize diverse achievements and contributions.

**Sign-up: PSEC & MESA - Mentor Night at WSU,
Everett Campus - February 26th, 2026**



FEBRUARY 26TH, 2026

6PM-8PM

INDUSTRY MENTOR NIGHT

Hosted by WSU Everett MESA
Program
&
Puget Sound Engineering Council

**WSU EVERETT 915 N BROADWAY, EVERETT, WA 98201
ROOM 101**

Scan to
register



Puget Sound Engineering Council



Washington State University, Everett campus along with the Puget Sound Engineering Council (PSEC) will host an Engineering Mentor Night on Thursday, February 26th, 2026 from 6:00 to 8:00PM.

Mentor Sign Up Form: [**MESA Mentoring Night with Puget Sound Engineering Council – Fill out form**](#)

Please plan on sharing your expertise with engineering students from WSU, Everett campus students! This one-night commitment will be held in person and consist of small group break-out sessions where students can meet you. Please bring items to help the students understand your engineering field. Please complete the above form and feel free to forward this email to others interested in mentoring.

Please plan to arrive between 5:30 to 6:00pm to prepare your table with items that highlight your discipline.

Location: WSU, Everett campus, [915 N Broadway, Room 101](#)

Agenda:

- 5:30pm Mentors arrive to set up their tables
- 6:00pm Introduction of PSEC & Industry Mentors
- 6:15pm Mentorship conversations begin. Students rotate every 15 minutes.
- 8:00pm End of event

Questions? Please reach out to Luis Leon at luisrafaelleon@yahoo.com (PSEC) or Rick Flores, WSU MESA Program Director, rick.d.flores@wsu.edu.

Community Volunteers Needed: Judge at Central Sound Regional Science & Engineering Fair - March 7, 2026

Our mission for the Central Sound Regional Science and Engineering Fair (CSRSEF), a STEM competition for high school students, is to create equitable opportunities and prepare students for their future career aspirations through Project Based Learning which helps develop students' communication and advocacy skills to drive their own future goals. Last year, our finalists ranked first in the US and second in the world at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF).

We are currently looking for judges to help out with our upcoming fair. It will be held at Mountlake Terrace High School on March 7th 2026 from 8am to about 2pm. Lunch will be provided.

As a judge, you will be able to listen and provide feedback to ~10 student poster presentations before ranking projects alongside fellow judges in your category. Top scorers will receive awards from our generous sponsors such as the Association for Women Geoscientists, American Psychological Association, and NASA. **The list of our top winners from the past four years can be found here.**

We have an extremely diverse list of project categories ranging from Behavioral and Social Sciences, Systems Software, and Environmental Science. Although the final list of categories is adjusted every year, **the comprehensive list of all possible topics can be found here.**

If you are interested, **please sign up here.** Judging applications are currently open and will close on February 22, 2026.

If you have any questions or would like more information, contact us at judges@csrsef.org.

ASCE GI 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

Are you a Bachelor's or Master's student in civil engineering with a focus in geotechnical engineering? If so, we're thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for you!

To support students' academic and career endeavors in geotechnical engineering, ASCE GI is now accepting applications for our 2025-2026 Scholarship! We have provided some details about the application below.

- Application Window: January 2, 2026 – February 27, 2026
- Award Amount: \$1,000 to \$3,000 per scholarship (multiple scholarships available)
- Requirement: Winners must attend the Geotechnical Spring Seminar in May 2026

Don't miss this opportunity to advance your education and connect with leaders in the geotechnical community! Learn more and [apply](#) here.

We encourage students to apply early and wish you the best of luck. Feel free to share this opportunity with fellow students who may benefit from it. Forward any questions and completed applications to ramya.rajana@shanwil.com.

Sustainability Committee Quarterly Meeting - February 25, 2026

The ASCE Seattle Section Sustainability Committee is excited to kick off 2026 with our first quarterly meeting—featuring special guest speaker **Dr. Yen Matsutomi**, Vice President at **Blue Origin**. Join us for an engaging afternoon focused on sustainability, innovation, and cross-industry collaboration. This event is generously sponsored by **Mott MacDonald**.

Date: February 25, 2026

Location: Westlake Center, 1601 5th Ave #400, Seattle, WA 98101

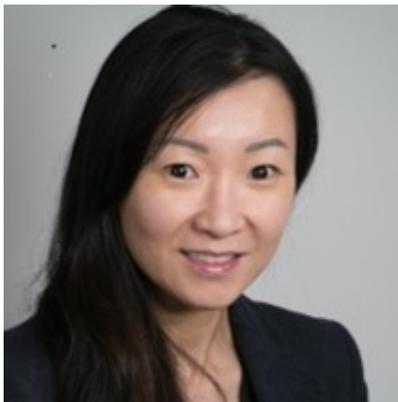
RSVP by February 19: sustainability@seattleasce.org (**Space is limited**)

Agenda

4:00 – 4:20 PM | Meet and Greet

4:30 – 5:00 PM | Presentation (25 min) + Q&A (5 min)

5:00 – 6:00 PM | Networking Cocktail Dinner



About the Speaker – Dr. Yen Matsutomi
**Vice President, Global Supply Chain
Engineering and Make-Buy Optimization (Blue
Origin)**

Yen Matsutomi is Vice President at Blue Origin, where she leads the Global Supply Chain Engineering and Make-Buy Optimization team. In this role, she drives supply chain scalability and ensures optimized sourcing strategies that support the company's long-term growth. Since joining Blue Origin in 2010, Matsutomi has spent more than 14 years in engine product development, overseeing

Propulsion Engineering for all engine products from concept through delivery to vehicle customers. She was part of the Blue Origin team recognized with the prestigious 2016 Collier Trophy for the first flight of New Shepard. Matsutomi holds a bachelor's, master's, and doctorate in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Purdue University.

Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition - March 14th, 2026

POPSICLE STICK BRIDGE COMPETITION

Calling all **middle and high school students!**

Think you can build the strongest bridge using only popsicle sticks and glue? Put your engineering skills to the test in a fun, hands-on competition hosted by ASCE Seattle YMF!

MARCH 14TH 2026

THE MUSEUM OF
FLIGHT

Interest Form:



**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED. SPREAD THE WORD WITH YOUR KIDS, STUDENTS,
AND FRIENDS - COME BUILD WITH US!**

Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition - Student Sign-Up

We are currently looking for middle and high school students to participate in our Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition! This hands-on engineering challenge gives students the opportunity to design, build, and test a bridge using only popsicle sticks and glue. No prior engineering experience is required just creativity, teamwork, and curiosity.

Location: The Museum of Flight, Seattle, WA

Date: March 14, 2026

Competition rules and the official building code will be released soon. Students who sign up through the interest form will be the first to receive updates, rules, and important event details.

Middle and High School Students of all backgrounds and experience levels are encouraged to participate.

ASCE UW Student Chapter and Affiliated Clubs Sponsorship Package



SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE



**American Society of Civil Engineers
University of Washington Student Chapter and
Affiliated Clubs**

2025-2026 Academic Year

- ASCE UW Student Chapter
- Steel Bridge
- Timber Strong Design Build
- Concrete Canoe



The ASCE UW Student Chapter has helped provide students with hands-on and professional experiences. For the 2025–2026 academic year, their teams are offering a joint sponsorship package. By partnering together, the Chapter aims to simplify the sponsorship process and strengthen support for their growing teams, including the newly established Timber Strong Design Build (est. 2024).

To find the complete Sponsorship Package, click the photo above or [use this link](#).

Thank you for your support of Civil Engineering students at UW!

ASCE Seattle YMF 2026 Sponsorship Package



Platinum \$3000+

Gold \$1500+

Silver \$500+

CONTACT US

Visit Our Website



<https://www.seattleasceymf.org/sponsorships>

DONATE
NOW!



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SEATTLE SECTION
YOUNGER MEMBER FORUM

The **ASCE Seattle Younger Member Forum (YMF)** supports civil engineering professionals and students across the region through professional development, K-12 outreach, university partnerships, networking, and community service. To operate these programs, YMF manages an annual budget of \$43,240, funded by ASCE Section support, event income, and community sponsorships.

For 2026, YMF offers three sponsorship tiers:

Platinum - \$3,000+

Includes premier recognition, newsletter and website placement, social media spotlights, and top tier event sponsorships such as PSB, Pickleball, Summer Picnic, and the Holiday Party.

Gold - \$1,500+

Includes newsletter + website recognition with one specialty event sponsorship (PSB or Pickleball) and one networking event sponsorship (Picnic or Holiday Party).

Silver - \$500+

A single event sponsorship (PSB or Pickleball) including marketing visibility and day of recognition.

Community - Donate your own amount

Community Sponsorship will match the benefits of Platinum, Gold, or Silver based on the amount donated.

These sponsorships directly fund YMF's biggest programs, including the Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition at the Museum of Flight, the annual Pickleball Tournament, scholarships, conferences, and student support helping inspire and empower the next generation of civil engineering leaders.

Please email us for the full sponsorship package and additional information.

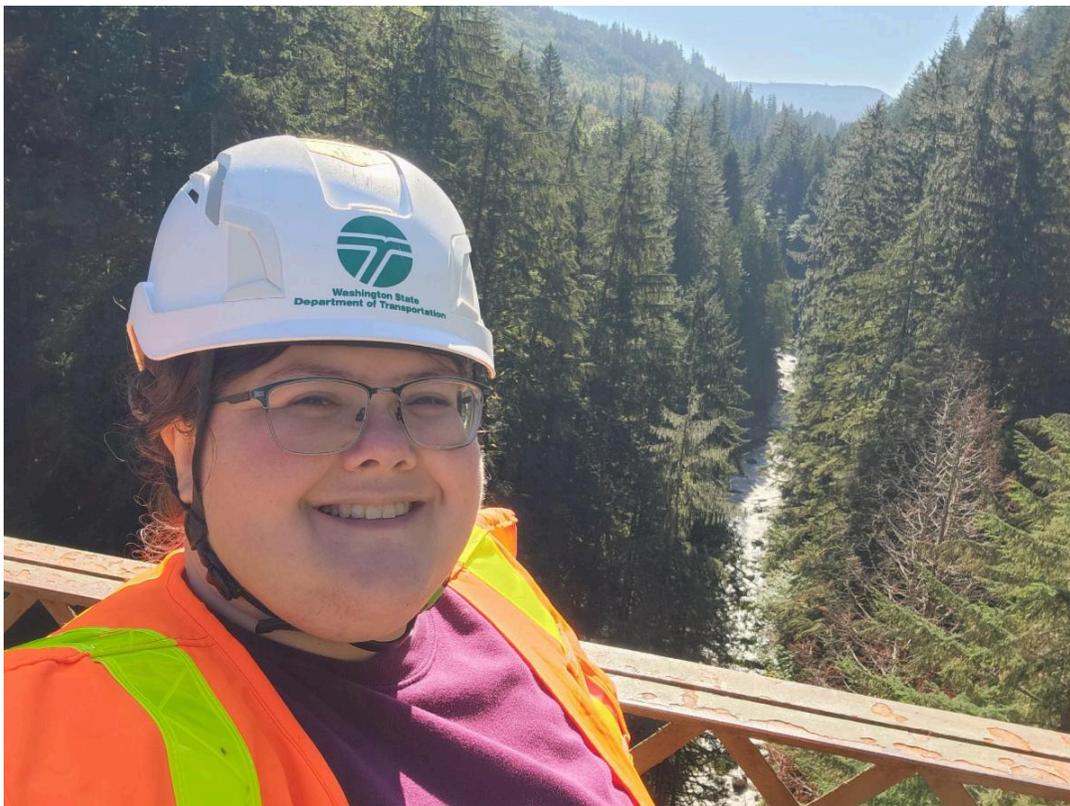
Volunteer Opportunity: Awards Night Planning

Are you passionate about recognizing excellence and celebrating civil engineering achievement? We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our Awards Committee!

We especially need volunteers to help plan the Awards Dinner, ensuring a fantastic and memorable celebration for all honorees.

Interested? Reach out to Bianca Casem (biancasem819@gmail.com) to get involved today!

Legislative Committee Recruiting



I'm Grace Amundsen Barnkow, chair of the Legislative Committee. I hold a BS in Civil Engineering and Business from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and an MPA from the University of Colorado Denver. Over the years I've worked with the Alaska and Washington State DOTs, the City of SeaTac, Pacific County, and in private practice.

Our committee keeps an eye on legislation that matters to engineers, gathers input from members on priority issues, and helps make sure our profession's voice is heard. We're looking for new members to join us—whether you're interested in tracking bills, sharing your perspective, or just learning more about how policy affects engineering.

If you'd like to be involved, we'd love to have you! Those who are interested can email president@seattleasce.org.

ASCE Seattle Job Board

[Click here to view open positions](#)

City of Bothell Transportation Planner, Senior

Posted 12/23/2025

"The City of Bothell's Public Works Department is looking for a Senior Transportation Planner to support implementation of the City's Comprehensive Plan and advance its forward-thinking transportation goals. This role will help shape a safe, multimodal transportation system and guide planning and project delivery that align with Bothell's vision for mobility, accessibility, and a high quality of life. Apply now using [this link](#).

Advertise your current open positions to ASCE Seattle members today for only \$75 for the first month and \$50 for each subsequent month of the same content.

[Email communications@seattleasce.org](mailto:Emailcommunications@seattleasce.org) to learn more.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Younger Member Forum (YMF)

Interested in networking events and opportunities with ASCE Seattle's Younger Members? Be sure to [subscribe to the YMF Newsletter here](#) to stay up to date.



ASCE Seattle Section | PO Box 1786 | Seattle, WA 98111 US

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