

A Way for ACI Chapters to Fund our Future

Naming an ACI Foundation Fellowship is a valuable option

ACI's most valuable resource is its members—all joined together in the common goal of advancing concrete technology. To maintain the drive to advance industry knowledge and technical information, ACI must embrace the younger generation of engineers—provide them with exposure to the industry, encourage them to specialize in the field of concrete, and foster their involvement in ACI to become the future contributors to the concrete knowledge base. The ACI Foundation Scholarship and Fellowship program brings effectiveness and value to these tasks.

ACI's tradition of supporting research and education stretches back more than three decades and continues to be an important means by which ACI trains and creates leaders so vital to our industry.

The ACI Concrete Research and Education Foundation, commonly known as ConREF, was approved by the Board of Direction in 1989 to provide ACI with a mechanism to support research and education. To better achieve that mission, ConREF was reorganized as the ACI Foundation in 2006. Through the stewardship of the ACI Foundation's Scholarship Council, the goal of advancing the future of concrete by granting financial awards continues.

The ACI Foundation's Student Fellowship program has been active for more than a decade and awards Fellowships

to promising and bright students. A Fellowship award:

- helps students with their tuition;
- gives them guidance in the form of an industry mentor; and
- brings them to ACI conventions to meet the fantastic people—our volunteer experts—who have shaped the concrete industry's technical knowledge and the ACI legacy.

Integrating these young engineers into the concrete industry through ACI whets their appetites for concrete, focuses their academic goals, and encourages their professional path in the concrete industry. To date, 56 Fellowships have been awarded and the majority of these recipients have gone on to work in our industry: 48% are engineers, 26% are professors, 5% are researchers, and 2% are principals of their own practices (19% are still students).

The program has grown since the first Student Fellowships were awarded in 2002, with several noteworthy changes. In 2006, the Charles Pankow Foundation Student Fellowship was established and awarded for the first time,

The ACI Foundation Fellowship and Scholarship Program provides students studying concrete with financial support and industry mentorship. Since 2001, the ACI Foundation has awarded over 140 Fellowships and Scholarships to deserving students with an interest in concrete. The ACI Foundation Fellowship and Scholarship programs are promoted globally through ACI's network of faculty members, and are awarded to the brightest and best students studying in the industry.

Individual and corporate donations of all levels are accepted to the general scholarship fund. Supporters interested in maximizing their donation can elect to have a Fellowship or Scholarship awarded in their name or the name of their company; if interested, or to contribute to the general scholarship fund, please contact Donna Halstead, ACI Managing Director, Finance and Administration, at Donna.Halstead@acifoundation.org.



The ACI Foundation's Scholarship Council recently established the Tribute to the Founders Fellowship, in honor of ACI Past Presidents Thomas D. Verti, Daniel L. Baker, and James R. Cagley



Stephan Durham (right), Associate Professor, University of Georgia, a 2001 ACI Foundation Fellowship Recipient, received the 2014 ACI Young Member Award for Professional Achievement from ACI Past President Anne Ellis

followed in 2008 by the Richard N. White Student Fellowship and the inaugural Cagley Student Fellowship. In 2009, eight student Fellowships were awarded, which included three Fellowships from Baker Concrete Construction, BASF Student Fellowship, and the ACI Presidents Fellowships.

Most recently, the Richard Stehly Memorial Fellowship was funded in 2013 and, in April of this year, the ACI Foundation's Scholarship Council was able to create a 10th Fellowship, the Tribute to the Founders Fellowship.

ACI Foundation is thrilled to announce yet another named Fellowship, this time through chapter engagement in our program.

How the Carolinas Chapter - ACI Established a Fellowship

Kenny Johnson, Vice President of Soil Consultants, Inc., Charleston, SC, and President of the Carolinas Chapter - ACI described how their chapter made the decision to establish a student academic award through the ACI Foundation: "Over 6 years ago, the Carolinas Chapter started talking seriously about scholarships. We looked at what ACI, other organizations, colleges, and individuals wanted. Like most things it was talked about, studied, researched, dissected, and reviewed again and again. The one thing we were missing was a champion that really wanted to take it on?"

The chapter found their champion in chapter Past President Cecil Jones, who "asked if he could work on getting more student chapters in the Carolinas in addition to the excellent one that is at North Carolina State University. Cecil spent the last 2 years looking over the information we had received from the CE Club of Charleston and the American Subcontractors Association Charleston Chapter about their scholarships, applications, and selection process. Cecil, Calvin McCall (Chapter Secretary-Treasurer), and I discussed the various parts we might include for the Carolinas scholarship," Johnson said.

"This year, I met Calvin in Charlotte, NC, on May 12 to travel to Farmington Hills, MI, for the Chapter Roundtable," Johnson continued. "While waiting at the airport, we

"Today, I teach courses in concrete materials, reinforced concrete design, prestressed concrete, and sustainability to the next generation of civil engineers that I hope will be eager to become involved and practice in the concrete industry. I owe much of my work and achievements to the ACI Foundation Fellowship Award, where it all began."

—Stephan Durham, Associate Professor, University of Georgia, and 2001 Fellowship Recipient

talked about ways to make the Carolinas Chapter better. One idea was linking the fellowship to the eight colleges where we could possibly have a student chapter and offer a fellowship/scholarship to those students first. At the Roundtable Student Chapter Activities track session, we bounced around the idea of the fellowship/scholarship—what positive feedback we received!

"Several weeks later at the [chapter's] June board meeting, we laid out all of the information we had received and the options we had. The enthusiasm in that meeting room was unbelievable. We described the various options and started talking about the time frame, the cost, who selects the recipient, and who does the work.

"The ACI Foundation is going to do all of the work for us," Johnson said. The ACI Foundation has extensive experience in administering student awards. The marketing, promotion, review of applications, and selection of awardees from the candidates is a time-consuming process—having a named ACI Foundation Fellowship eliminates the heavy administrative work for chapter volunteer members. One of the main benefits is that ACI Foundation has a much larger promotional reach to potential student applicants. The Carolinas Chapter merely has to select their top choice of three candidates—candidates already previewed and selected from a larger pool by the Scholarship Council.

"All we really need to do is write a check each year for 5 years," Johnson explained. The Carolinas Chapter - ACI Board decided to fully fund an ACI Foundation Fellowship at that June 2014 Chapter Board meeting, "placing the money back into the future of our organization to support the young men and women who will one day be our replacements."

Active Chapter Members Honored

Johnson continued: "At first, we decided to name the Fellowship after our Chapter. My wife Debbie made the

Click on the ACI Fellowship Founders video at <http://acifoundation.org> to hear about why funding a Fellowship is important to the concrete industry.

suggestion to name it for someone that has done a tremendous amount of work for the Chapter. It took about two seconds to come up with a name. She agreed, but reminded me that this man's wife is the real Treasurer—and, you know, she was right. So we came up with the name. I called every Board member and several past members; everyone agreed.

“The name will be **The Barbara S. and W. Calvin McCall Carolinas Fellowship**. Thank you, Barbara and Calvin.”

How You Can Contribute

Funding a Fellowship is a meaningful way for a chapter to give back to its own industry and that industry's growth. ACI and the ACI Foundation have a deep appreciation to those who financially support the Fellowship program and have shown exceptional spirit of giving back to the industry to help shape its future through the funding of students. Through their generous donations we've been able to award many students, but the trend in the last few years is that the demand for these awards far exceeds the available funding. Your contribution will help sustain the vision of the Student Fellowship program founders, and ensure the program continues to produce the leaders so needed and valued by our industry.

Establish a Fellowship award today and be a part of one of the ACI Foundation's most successful programs. Establishing a named Fellowship requires a minimum pledge of \$75,000 to be paid at a rate of \$15,000 for 5 years. This entitles you to name the Fellowship and establish criteria on which students would be eligible to receive the Fellowship.

Annually, ACI and the ACI Foundation have been able to award both undergraduate and graduate students with up to eight (\$3000 to \$5000) scholarships that are applied directly toward tuition. We currently have scholarships named in honor of prominent ACI members, giants of the concrete industry and strong supporters of ACI's work, who have contributed legacies to the Institute—individuals such as Katharine and Bryant Mather, Bertold Weinberg, Kumar Mehta, W. Gene Corely, and ACI Past President Dick Stehly.

Establishing a named scholarship requires a minimum pledge of \$30,000 to be paid at a rate of \$3000 for 10 years. This entitles you to name a scholarship and establish criteria on which students would be eligible to receive the scholarship.

Earn CEUs from the comfort and privacy of your home, office, or anywhere!

ACI offers an easy-to-use online CEU program for anyone that needs to earn continuing education credits.

ACI members can take up to eight courses FREE of charge per membership year. Nonmembers and members that have used all of their free courses can purchase courses for \$25. Each course includes a 10-question exam.

Participants must register and log in to the ACI Web site.

Once registered, users can download and study reference documents that the exams are keyed to. After the exam is passed, ACI issues a certificate of completion for presentation to local licensing agencies.

Check it out now! For details, go to: www.concrete.org/education/OnlineCEUProgram.aspx

The following are some of the courses that have recently been added to the program:

- E3-I3, Cementitious Materials for Concrete (Part 1) and (Part 2)
- E4-I2, Chemical Admixtures for Concrete (Part 1) and (Part 2)

In addition, the program includes courses on the following topics:

- Cracking
- Slabs
- Foundations
- Aggregates
- Design
- Reinforcement
- Cementitious Materials
- Admixtures
- Repair
- Alternative Binders
- Shoring
- Cold Weather Concrete
- Core Testing
- Shotcrete
- Adhesive Anchors



American Concrete Institute

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