

## Happy New Year from the ACI Foundation

After an unpredictable year in 2020, we are grateful to have such strong commitment from donors, volunteers, and the concrete community. Your dedication keeps us thriving, and it ensured that the year was action-packed and successful, even as we adapted to a completely virtual world. We launched our third annual appeal and received contributions from the ACI Board of Direction, ACI Foundation Trustees, and ACI senior management. We procured new fellowships and scholarships, held the first Strategic Development Council (SDC) virtual technology forum, thanked donors through a recognition video, completed long-term research projects, and so much more. Most importantly, with your help, the ACI Foundation awarded over \$200,000 in fellowships and scholarships to the brightest and best students in the industry, provided \$375,000 for concrete industry research, and held two innovative technology forums.

We sincerely thank all those who supported us and helped us to successfully grow in 2020. We extend special thanks to Advancing Organizational Excellence (AOE) for donating \$75,000 to start the AOE Fellowship and to Surendra Shah for donating \$55,000 to start the S.P. Shah Fellowship. Both major gifts will benefit students studying in concrete-related degree programs. Students who are awarded a fellowship will receive a \$10,000 stipend to help them pay for tuition, books, and supplies during a single academic year, plus financial support to attend two ACI Concrete Conventions.

Thank you to ACI, which donated \$700,000 in total for mission-based work to help us promote progress, innovation, and collaboration in the concrete industry. Baker Concrete Construction, Ron Burg, Jeff Coleman, David Lange, and Michael Paul, among others, were also key individual contributors to the ACI Foundation in 2020. All these contributions help us make a difference.

The momentum from 2020 has carried us into 2021. With new planned giving initiatives well underway and continued growth on the horizon, we are looking forward to another exhilarating year. Join us in 2021 to become part of the only nonprofit that supports all applications of concrete in the built world. To become involved and donate, contact Jennifer DeWall, Development Director, at [jennifer.dewall@acifoundation.org](mailto:jennifer.dewall@acifoundation.org) or +1.248.848.3757. You can also visit [www.acifoundation.org](http://www.acifoundation.org) for more information.

## Save the Date for SDC Virtual Technology Forum 49

The ACI Foundation's SDC is holding its 49th Technology Forum virtually on February 9-11, 2021. Visit [www.acifoundation.org/technology/forums](http://www.acifoundation.org/technology/forums) for registration, agenda, and speaker information.



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The Concrete Research Council and the ACI Foundation support research critical to advancing the industry

## Concrete Research Council

The annual Request for Proposals closed December 1, 2020. The received proposals are currently in review, and grantees will be notified and announced after the spring ACI Convention.

Research is a critical factor in the advancement of our industry, and the Concrete Research Council (CRC) and the ACI Foundation seek to make the greatest impact possible with the available resources.

A recently completed project demonstrates two areas of impact of ACI Foundation support. The project, titled



The Scholarship Council will announce the recipients of 24 available educational awards after the spring ACI Concrete Convention

“Impact of Retarder-Induced Roughness on Shear Friction Capacity Using Conventional and High-Strength Reinforcement,” was headed by Principal Investigator Paolo Martino Calvi, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA. The experimental work focused on developing a better understanding of the interplay of the variables of surface texture, steel reinforcement characteristics, and reinforcement ratio on shear-transfer capacity. From this work, a new shear-friction equation was proposed that better predicts the peak shear-transfer capacity of both untreated (or smooth) and roughened cold-joint specimens.

“In the technical realm, this research influenced the development of a possible new equation and code change proposal for ACI 318,” said Andrew W. Taylor, KPFF Consulting Engineers and Chair of ACI Committee 318, Structural Concrete Building Code. “And in the educational realm, the grant sponsored the ambitious work of graduate student Stephen Ahn, who delivered excellent research results,” Taylor continued. Beyond advancing concrete knowledge, research also supports emerging and talented researchers who can contribute to ACI’s resources and help shape our industry.

View all completed research, including projects funded collaboratively with research partners, at [www.acifoundation.org/research](http://www.acifoundation.org/research).

## Scholarship Council

Our annual outreach for promising ACI and concrete industry leaders was once again a success, with many students competing for one of the ACI Foundation’s prestigious awards. With 24 available educational awards, we have the largest and most robust program that caters specifically to students in concrete-related studies. We have received 74 completed applications for our Standard Scholarship and

Fellowship Program, and 10 completed Middle East and North Africa Program applications. The 2021-2022 student applications are being reviewed, and awardees will be announced after the spring Convention.

In addition, the ACI Foundation has strengthened its mentorship program to help integrate fellowship awardees into ACI and the concrete industry. Students will be paired with mentors to increase student awareness of the ACI Foundation and to further engage students with ACI. These mentorships also provide students with an organized experience and build a professional network to support them in the next steps in their career paths in the concrete industry. Please contact Tricia Ladely, Assistant Director, at [tricia.ladely@acifoundation.org](mailto:tricia.ladely@acifoundation.org) or +1.248.848.3737, if you are interested in supporting our future concrete industry leaders by serving as an Industry Mentor or ACI Convention Guide.

## Advertise



For more information, contact

Jeff Rhodes, VP Sales

E-mail: [jeff.rhodes@mci-group.com](mailto:jeff.rhodes@mci-group.com)

MCI USA: +1.410.584.8487

