Happy New Year from the ACI Foundation

Last year was action-packed. We launched our first annual appeal, celebrated our first exclusive Foundation Kickoff event, and added a development committee and two new staff members to our team. Most importantly, with your help, the ACI Foundation awarded $155,000 in fellowships and scholarships to the brightest and best students in the industry; provided $375,000 for concrete industry research; and funded $150,000 for implementation of innovative technologies. It was a great year.

We sincerely thank all who have supported us and helped in our successful growth in 2018. We extend special thanks to Advancing Organizational Excellence (AOE) for its $100K donation, and ACI for its nearly $1M donation in total for mission-based work to help us promote progress, innovation, and collaboration in the concrete industry. AOE and ACI have been instrumental in helping move the ACI Foundation’s philanthropic efforts forward. Ron Burg, Jeff Coleman, CVM (through the efforts of Tracy Marcotte), Kimberly Kayler, David Lange, Khaled Awad, and Randy Poston, were also key individual contributors to the ACI Foundation in 2018. Thank you for helping us make a difference.

With new planned giving initiatives still underway and continued growth on the horizon, we are looking forward to another exhilarating year. Join us in 2019 to become part of the only nonprofit that supports all facets of concrete application to the built world. To get involved and donate, contact Jennifer DeWall, Development Director, at jennifer.dewall@acifoundation.org or +1.248.848.3757. You can also visit www.acifoundation.org for more information.

Join us at the SDC Technology Forum 45

The ACI Foundation’s Strategic Development Council (SDC) will hold its 45th Technology Forum on February 13-15, 2019, in La Jolla, CA, at the Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines. The main session starts February 14. Preceding the main session, we will hold the next Concrete 2029 workshop, Implementing Technology and Innovation, on February 13.

Check www.acifoundation.org/sdc for registration, the upcoming agenda, and speaker information.

New SDC Goals

During 2018, the SDC worked on its strategic plan to help the organization be more effective and bring positive change and focus to the concrete industry. The SDC Board of Direction approved the following new goals:

- Improve the Durability of Concrete;
- Improve How Innovation Gets Implemented;
- Improve Productivity and Quality Performed by the Contractor; and
- Improve Design and Rules for Design (as standards/codes influence construction).

World of Concrete Special Exhibit Sponsored by SDC

Emerging technologies and innovations will be on display at the 2019 Concrete Start-Up Zone. This special exhibit area is an extension of the World of Concrete’s Education Program, featuring technology, equipment, and materials that have not yet been commercially introduced into the market. SDC is a sponsor of the Start-Up Zone in the North Hall of the Las Vegas Convention Center, January 22-25, 2019.

Scholarship Council

Applications for the 2019-2020 Fellowship and Scholarship awards are being reviewed. We received 63 Fellowship and 54 Scholarship applications. In this cycle, 12 Fellowships and eight Scholarships will be awarded. Please contact Tricia Ladely, Assistant Director, at 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.

Concrete Research Council

The deadline for submitting research proposals to the Concrete Research Council (CRC) was December 1, 2018. Forty proposals were received and are currently in review. Each proposal had support from at least one ACI technical committee, demonstrating the need for research to advance consensus committee work. We will announce the research grant recipients soon after the close of the Spring convention. Research is a critical component to advancing our industry and the CRC and ACI Foundation seek to make the greatest impact possible with their resources.

SDC Supports Progress on New Goals

The SDC Board recognized performance-based wind design (PBWD) as an Industry Critical Technology (ICT) with Ron Klemencic, Chairman and CEO, Magnuson Klemencic Associates, serving as this initiative’s Champion. The ICT designation gives priority to PBWD and the SDC Board will direct resources for collaborative research and re-examining the approach to current guides, standards, and codes.

A PBWD solution can improve efficiency of design and construction of buildings and potentially improve structural performance. ACI Committee 375, Performance-Based Design of Concrete Buildings for Wind Loads, has outlined many issues and gaps in developing a PBWD methodology and can jumpstart a roadmap for these efforts.