

ACI Foundation Donor Spotlight: Jeffrey Coleman



Coleman

When Jeff Coleman was appointed as Chair of the ACI Foundation Board of Trustees in 2017, he only had an inkling of what the Foundation did and its overall importance to ACI and the concrete industry at large. Since then, Coleman has taken the culture of philanthropy to heart, becoming one of the Foundation's most outspoken and leading advocates, as well as a generous donor. Coleman and his wife

Ayanna give annually to support the ACI Foundation mission.

"I've gained a deep appreciation of the importance of the Foundation and how it is so well positioned to simultaneously advance ACI and the industry. In fact, I went from knowing little about the Foundation to becoming a life-long advocate."

Coleman served as ACI Vice President from 2018 to 2020 and ACI President from 2020 to 2021. "My belief in the Foundation continues and was a cornerstone of my efforts on the ACI Board of Direction and Executive Committee," he said. During his presidency, he championed the Foundation's "Million Dollar Challenge," helping the Foundation secure major donations from key industry players. "Remarkably, due to the amazing generosity of ACI members, companies, and chapters throughout my term, we have not only reached that goal, but we have exceeded it. Yes...we raised over 1 million USD for the ACI Foundation. During my term, over 110 of us made personal and corporate contributions ranging from \$10 to \$75,000 and a significant personal contribution to get us past the goal line. As with any important mission, it takes the combined efforts of many to achieve success—that's where together, we can make a transformational difference in our industry," Coleman said.

Coleman also partnered with former ACI Executive Vice President Ron Burg to establish and fund the ACI Foundation Burg-Coleman Iowa State '77 ACI Fellowship. He also became a mentor to the 2022-2023 Burg-Coleman Iowa State '77 Fellowship recipient Caleb Stevenson and made a point of introducing him to important industry connections, inviting him to committee meetings, and attending networking events with him at the ACI Concrete Convention – Fall 2022 in Dallas, TX, USA.

To contribute to the ACI Foundation's mission and for more information, visit www.acifoundation.org/giving or contact Kari Martin, ACI Foundation Fundraising Manager, at kari.martin@acifoundation.org or +1.248.848.3757.

"I have been incredibly impressed with Caleb's drive and enthusiasm. In many ways, he reminds me of myself at that age (although I think his GPA is higher) ... our job is to encourage people like Caleb to stay involved. Even though it is now 43 years ago, I can recall how daunting the first ACI conventions can be and wanted to do what I could to break down the real or perceived barriers to first-time convention attendees."

His support for the Foundation's mission to identify and grow new approaches and ideas through research, attract and encourage the best talent to join ACI and the industry, and continually identify and address strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities within the concrete industry has had an unparalleled impact on the success of the organization. Now serving his second stint on the ACI Foundation Board of Trustees, and again as Chair, his support, advocacy, and influence continue.

In 2022, he was honored with the ACI Foundation's Building the Future Award, an award which is given to an ACI Foundation volunteer who exemplifies our tagline, Building the Future, and has demonstrated exceptional dedication, influence, and impact on the ACI Foundation and its mission work. The criteria for the award take into consideration the longevity of positive participation with the Foundation, broad engagement with Foundation activity, advocacy and ambassadorship of the Foundation's mission, and high-impact activity with the Foundation's boards and councils.

Coleman is a Fellow of ACI, and as an ACI member for 40 years is active on several technical committees. Coleman is both a licensed professional engineer and attorney at law and principal partner at Coleman & Erickson, LLC, representing engineers, architects, and suppliers. In 2020, *Concrete Construction* recognized him as one of "The Year's Most Influential People" in the concrete industry.

The ACI Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports a wide range of research and educational initiatives that contribute to keeping the concrete industry at the forefront of technological advances in material composition, design, and construction. It engages with industry partners, invests in students and research, shares knowledge, and provides programs to encourage innovation and new technology. ACI established the ACI Foundation in 1989 to promote progress, innovation, and collaboration in the industry.

Impact of Industry Research

The ACI Foundation funds or co-funds needed concrete research to inform ACI committee work and documents, provide data to close the gap for use of a new technology, lay

the groundwork for potential code change proposals, and to help develop young researchers as they produce knowledge for our industry. The following research reports have been issued since July 2023:

- **Development of Large High-Strength Headed Reinforcing Bars**; PI: David Darwin—University of Kansas; Sponsored by the Charles Pankow Foundation and co-funded by the ACI Foundation; BarSplice Products, Inc.; Headed Reinforcement Corporation, nVENT Lenton; CRSI Education and Research Foundation; Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute, Commercial Metals Company (CMC); and Nucor Corporation.
- **Full-Scale Testing of a New Double-Beam Coupling Beam (DBC) with a Simplistic Reinforcing Layout**; PI: Shih-Ho Chao—The University of Texas at Arlington; In-kind support from CRSI, CMC, and The University of Texas at Arlington.

- **Assessing ACI 318 Using Data from the 2015 and 2019 E-Defense 10-Story, Full-Scale Building Tests**; PI: John Wallace—University of California, Los Angeles; Co-funding from ATC-134 and University of California, Los Angeles.
- **Transverse Reinforcement Requirements for UHPC Columns: Assessment of Existing ACI Provisions and New Developments**; PI: Mohamed Moustafa—University of Nevada, Reno; Co-funding and in-kind donations from ceEntek, Steelike, and University of Nevada, Reno.

Correction

Normal and High Strength Continuously Wound Ties (CWT); PI: Bahram Shahrooz—Charles Pankow Foundation, Co-funded by the ACI Foundation.

Public reports are available for download at www.acifoundation.org/research/researchprojects.aspx.



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