



State President's Message

Andy DiLeo, PE, SE
SEAOA State President



Hello SEAOA Members,

I'm looking forward to another year serving as the state board president and working with the returning members of the board. I'd like to welcome David Grapsas to the state board. David will be serving as a Director on the State Board and will also be this year's Central Chapter Chairperson. We welcome back Ron Schneider and Chuck Mackey who will also be serving as State Board Directors. I'd also like to say thank you to Mike Lu, Craig Nelson and

Steven Hess. Their terms as directors have ended but I look forward to their continued involvement and contributions to SEAOA.

Even though the state and local boards have been set for the coming year there are still opportunities to get involved with SEAOA. Our committees are very important to SEAOA as we try to meet the organization's goals and mission. You will read in this newsletter that there have been some significant Arizona legislative changes. If you feel strongly about these changes consider joining our Legislative Committee, chaired by Mike Lu. If you have ideas about how SEAOA can better engage or benefit our members, consider joining the Membership Committee. Please visit our website to see what other committees we have and find something that you would like to be a part of.

In This Issue

- ▶ [State President's Message](#)
- ▶ [Central Chapter Chairperson's Message](#)
- ▶ [Tucson Chapter President's Message](#)
- ▶ [SEAOA 2020-2021 Membership Renewal](#)
- ▶ [AZ Legislature Passes SB 1274 Board Composition Changes Amid AZBTR Opposition](#)
- ▶ [Request for Newsletter Articles](#)
- ▶ [Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards](#)
- ▶ [2020-2021 Board Members and Committee Chairs](#)
- ▶ [Newsletter Survey](#)



JOINT CENTRAL
AND TUCSON
CHAPTER VIRTUAL
LUNCH MEETING
September 15, 2020
12pm-1:30pm



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JOINT CENTRAL AND
TUCSON CHAPTER
VIRTUAL LUNCH
MEETING
September 15, 2020
12pm-1:30pm

Central Chapter Chairperson's Message

David Grapsas, P.E., S.E.
Central Chapter Chair



I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. 2020 has been a year we will not forget. We are stronger together!

The Central Chapter is continuing to monitor the ongoing situations and the ever-changing

events and executive orders. We are currently thinking of hosting virtual meetings for the fall dinner meeting/presentations.

Please check the SEAOA website for updates and calendar of events.

Tucson Chapter President's Message

Jennifer McMahon Patronski, PE, SE
Tucson Chapter President



Tucson Chapter activities have been silent since March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We unfortunately had to cancel three chapter meetings including our annual ACI Joint Meeting and our SEER Presentation. With the

current state of Arizona's heightened concern over the pandemic, chapter meetings will remain on hold and in-person meetings will not commence until we can provide safe conditions for our membership and colleagues.

Looking into the near future, the Tucson Chapter may move with the trends and hold online meetings or information shares. Until then, I wish all of our membership and their families health and safety and all of our member firms prosperity in these unusual times.

SEAOA 2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The SEAOA wants to remind our membership that annual dues for the 2020-2021 year are due in August 2020. Email announcements regarding renewal were recently sent out on July 2nd to all members. Dues can be paid online through the SEAOA (seaoa.org) website by logging into your profile and click on "view profile" to renew your membership on line or print a renewal invoice.

Any questions can be emailed to info@seaoa.org

AZ Legislature Passes SB1274 Board Composition Changes Amid AZBTR Opposition

Jennifer McMahon Patronski, PE, SE
Structural Concepts, Inc

On May 20, 2020, the Arizona State Legislature passed SB1274, Professional Regulatory Boards – Composition. As a result, starting August 28, 2020 the Board of Technical Registration composition will change, losing two engineering members and one architectural member, while increasing public members to six. One public member is required to have a legal, construction, or design background. The change leaves the Board with fewer technical representatives than public and leaves only one engineering member to represent the seventeen branches of engineering.

AZBTR Board Composition

Discipline	Current Members	Members Starting 8/28/20
Architects	2	1
Engineers	3 (One Civil Engineer Required)	1 (Any Discipline)
Landscape Architects	1	1
Geologists	1	1
Land Surveyors	1	1
Public Members	1	6
Total Board Members	9	11

Other non-health care professions and occupations have been affected by the Bill, including The State Board of Barbers and the State Board of Accountancy, however the composition of all

Boards except AZBTR maintains at least one more technical/professional representative than public members. Health care professions were not affected by the Bill, and maintain their full professional representation.

The AZBTR and local engineering societies, including American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), oppose the Bill and have actively attempted to educate and inform the Governor's Office and the State Legislature as to why the representation of multiple engineering disciplines benefits both the legal process and the safety of the public affected daily by the work of engineers and architects. Opponents of the Bill express concern that the composition changes will deplete the Board of vital subject matter expertise required to perform effectively.

The AZBTR regulates nearly 18,500 registered professional engineers and 6,000 registered architects in Arizona. The Board reviews licensure applications and renewals, issuing annually approximately 1,000 new licenses and 10,000 renewals. Additionally, the Board investigates and arbitrates approximately 150 public complaints. Issues brought to the Board for review are highly technical and the loss of expertise could result in misinformed decisions, potentially affecting public safety or wrongly impacting a licensee.

Proponents of the Bill have cited one example in support of the Bill, a US Supreme Court decision, Federal Trade Commission vs. North Carolina Dental Board, wherein SCOTUS ruled the NC Dental Board (composed of registrant elected Board members, not Governor appointed) abused its power by issuing cease-and-desist orders to non-dentists providing teeth-whitening services and manufacturing teeth-whitening products. Opponents to SB1274 argue the case is not relevant to the operation of AZBTR, as members are Governor appointed and any one branch of engineering or architecture does not have a majority stake in voting.

The AZBTR supports maintaining its current composition based on its 100 years of effective and successful operation. AZBTR has gained recognition nationally as a “Model Board” for their effective and efficient licensure review process and their enforcement of their “Practice Act to rehabilitate professional registrants and protect the public.” Board members have expressed frustration over the Legislature trying to “fix” a process that is not only not broken, but is revered by peer boards.

Members of the AZBTR have openly opposed the Bill, stating the Governor’s Office and the Bill’s sponsor, Senator Michelle Ugenti-Rita, do not have a working knowledge of the Board and are not only uninterested in learning about the activities and processes of the Board, but have refused to meet with interested stakeholders wishing to express their concern of the negative impact the Bill could have on public safety and protection. The Bill also reflects political motivation toward de-licensure and allowing unlicensed individuals to compete with licensed professionals. Some feel this is a political agenda wrongly touting economic growth without regard for the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

What can we in the SE community do? Volunteer and Be Active. Melissa Cornelius, AZBTR Executive Director, encourages members of the engineering community to reach out to their legislative representatives to express their concern

and help educate them on our profession, ethics, and standard of practice. She also encourages engineers to volunteer for Board activities, to provide knowledge and expertise to review licensure applications and participate in the investigative process. The Board operates entirely off licensing and renewal applications and deposits 10% of its revenue to the State’s General Fund. AZBTR operates with a staff of only 21, and is heavily reliant on volunteers from our professional community to serve as evaluators, investigators, and reviewers.

For more information and to volunteer, please reach out to AZBTR, your SEAOA leadership, or other active engineering representatives.

Useful contacts and links:
AZBTR: <https://btr.az.gov/>

Interested Volunteers contact AZBTR: Douglas Parlin, AZBTR Enforcement Unit Manager, douglas.parlin@azbtr.gov

AZBTR Factsheet for SB1274:
[https://btr.az.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/fact sheet for sb1274.pdf](https://btr.az.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/fact%20sheet%20for%20sb1274.pdf)

To Find Your AZ Legislative Representatives:
<https://www.azleg.gov/findmylegislator/>

REQUEST FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The SEAOA Newsletter committee always appreciates input from the membership about articles and information that you’d like to see in upcoming newsletters. The newsletter is an excellent place for the SEAOA membership to share opinions, ideas and information with the rest of the association. Also, anyone who could volunteer a little time every quarter to help publish the newsletter is most welcome. One easy way to help would be to “proof” the newsletter before it’s published. Please contact Sal Caccavale (seccbc@cox.net) or Mark Sipes (mark_sipes@tempe.gov) if you have any articles that you’d like to submit, if there are any topics you’d like to see in future SEAOA Newsletters or if you’d like to help with publishing the newsletter.



Excellence in Engineering Awards

Sal Caccavale
SEAOA Awards Program Chair

The SEAOA takes great pleasure in announcing this year's SEAOA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards recipients.

Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards went to the following entries:

PROJECT	FIRM	CATEGORY
UA Health Sciences Innovation Building	Martin White & Griffis	New Buildings, Over \$10M
Block 23 @ CityScape	PK Associates, LLC	New Buildings, Over \$10M
The Watermark Tempe	PK Associates, LLC	New Buildings, Over \$10M
Adaptive Reuse 225 W Madison	DLR Group	Forensic/Renovation/Retrofit/Rehabilitation
Northern Arizona University Kitt Recital Hall	Meyer Borgman Johnson	Forensic/Renovation/Retrofit/Rehabilitation
UA College of Pharmacy Skaggs Building Addition & Renovation	Martin White & Griffis	Forensic/Renovation/Retrofit/Rehabilitation

Merit Awards in Structural Engineering Awards went to the following entries:

PROJECT	FIRM	CATEGORY
American Express - New Canyon Building	Meyer Borgman Johnson	New Buildings, Over \$10M
Desert Diamond West Valley Casino	PK Associates, LLC	New Buildings, Over \$10M
CHASSE Headquarters	Wright Engineers	Forensic/Renovation/Retrofit/Rehabilitation

More details regarding the award level, commemorative plaques, and other information are in the attached Announcement: [2020 SEAOA Excellence in Engineering Awards](http://seaoa.org/resources/Documents/2020%20Convention/SEAOA_StrExcell(17JUL20)r.pdf) More information on the awarded projects, the Excellence in Engineering presentation can be found here: [http://seaoa.org/resources/Documents/2020%20Convention/SEAOA_StrExcell\(17JUL20\)r.pdf](http://seaoa.org/resources/Documents/2020%20Convention/SEAOA_StrExcell(17JUL20)r.pdf)

SEAOA thanks the firms that submitted entries this year. As noted by one of the judges there were a number of “really solid” entries this year. This is evidenced by the fact that nine entries were submitted and all nine received an award. Please be advised that although there were six Excellence awards, none received an excellence recommendation from all the judges which is the criteria for SEAOA to pay the entry fee for the upcoming NCSEA 2020 Awards program.

For a complete list of all SEAOA Excellence in Engineering Awards winners, see the Awards Committee page: <http://seaoa.org/awards/>

2020 - 2021 SEAOA Board Members and Committee Chairs

State Board:

President: Andy Dileo
 Past President: Arpan Tailor
 At-Large Director/Treasurer: Chuck Mackey
 Tucson Director/Secretary: Jennifer Patroski
 Tucson Director: Ron Schneider
 Central Chapter Director: David Grapsas
 Central Chapter Director/Treasurer: James Newhall

Committees and Chairs:

Awards: Sal Caccavale
 Finance: James Newhall, Mike Lu and Brady Notbohm
 Code: Paul Scott and George Stevenson
 Convention Planning: Andy DiLeo
 Legislative: Mike Lu
 Membership: Tye Havey
 Newsletter: Sal Caccavale and Mark Sipes
 SEER: David Troxell and Derek Hanson
 YMG: John Heck

Central Chapter:

Chairperson: David Grapsas
 Past Chairperson: James Newhall
 Treasurer: Diane Eisenbacher
 Secretary: Bob Brown
 Director: Mark Forman
 Director: Jan Dunkelberg
 Director: Mark Sipes
 Director: Adam Boucher

Tucson Chapter:

President: Jennifer Patroski
 Vice President: Brent Woods and Steven Hess
 Treasurer: Manuel Naves
 Secretary: Sergio Pelayo
 Director: Andy DiLeo
 Director: Ron Schneider

SEAOA 2020 NEWSLETTER SURVEY

Typically, the Newsletter Committee takes a newsletter survey at the state convention. The purpose of this survey is to collect opinions from our membership as to how it is being received. Please take a couple minutes to complete this survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B9RMWFC>. All info sent will remain anonymous.

SEAOA Newsletter Committee