Affiliate Director’s Note

Dear Friends of ACE,

What an amazing year we have had so far! We have nearly 65 mentors and over 150 students participating in 14 schools. We also have several new schools kicking off this year and even more that are interested in having ACE DC join their school next year! With this increase in school interest, we are in need of mentors more than ever. If you aren’t already, please consider joining an active school team, either as a mentor or guest presenter. At this point, each team is actively working on their design build project and excited to present their projects in May.

I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank all of our mentors. Without mentors, this program would cease to exist. It is because of our dedicated volunteers that students across the Washington DC area are being exposed to the A/C/E fields and getting excited to continue their education. Mentoring works, and ACE DC is proof.

Finally, please check out our new Facebook page, Like us, and get all the most recent updates!

www.facebook.com/washingtondcACE

Mary Bradford
Letter from the President

Dear ACE Community,

Happy New Year! On behalf of our entire board, we want to thank the mentors for their commitment. It is the mentors that make this program so successful and this affiliate has some of the best.

Mary Bradford, our Affiliate Director, has been an amazing addition to the affiliate. One of the things that Mary wanted to promote was more mentor specific activities as our program has always been a great networking organization for the professionals involved. Mary recognized that, and along with Thomas James and Sarah Hasselman, organized a mentor Happy Hour on February 5th. We had nearly 40 mentors and board members meet and network. It was a great time!

Finally, please, Save the Date! May 15th is our ACE Scholarship breakfast at the Willard Hotel. The scholarship breakfast continues to get better, and this year is going to be great. Please mark your calendars and reserve your spot. More information will follow as we get closer.

Thanks again and I look forward to seeing some of you at one of our upcoming events.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Choquette
Board Chair

2015 ACE Scholarship Awards Breakfast

Friday May 15, 2015
The Willard Intercontinental Hotel – Washington, DC

$10,000 PENTHOUSE
- Provides $5,000 in scholarship funds
- Receive two breakfast tables of ten
- Prominent event signage
- Recognition of scholarship award
- Special mention in the program
- Year-long recognition on ACE DC website
- Year-long recognition in ACE publications.

$5,000 TOP FLOOR
- Provides $2,500 in scholarship funds
- Receive one breakfast table for ten
- Prominent event signage
- Recognition of scholarship award
- Special mention in the program
- Year-long recognition on ACE website
- Year-long recognition in ACE publications.

$2,000 LOBBY
- Provides $1,000 in scholarship funds
- Receive one breakfast table for ten
- Medium event signage
- Recognition of scholarship award
- Special mention in the program
- Year-long recognition on ACE website
- Year-long recognition in ACE publications.

$1,500 Breakfast Table
- Breakfast table for ten, with access to full breakfast

$160 Individual Ticket

SPECIALTY PACKAGES
- Coffee Station - $500
- Full Breakfast - $500
- Provides named recognition during the event
- Medium event signage
- Helps cover event costs
To Members of the ACE Board, Leadership Council, and Affiliates,

On behalf of the ACE Mentor Program of America, the Executive Committee, Charlie Thornton and I are delighted to announce that we have successfully recruited Jack Kalavritinos as our President and Chief Executive Officer, effective in early February.

After an extensive executive search, ACE is fortunate to have selected Jack Kalavritinos to help coalesce and lead the organization for its next growth steps. He is uniquely qualified to lead ACE based on his proven organizational and leadership skills, strength in advocacy, and strategic communications.

As Charlie Thornton, ACE Board Co-Chair, noted in our press release, “With this appointment, I look forward to ACE undertaking exciting and dynamic opportunities in pursuit of our strategic goals.”

Jack gained knowledge of the design and construction industry early in his career. For eight years he worked at the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) initially as General Counsel and then as Director of Government Affairs. At ACEC he interacted with many companies that support ACE at the local and national levels.

Jack comes to ACE from the global healthcare products company Covidien where he has served as Director of Global Government Affairs and Director of Public Policy since 2007. Prior to this, he was a senior appointee for President George W. Bush at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Labor (DOL), and at the Office of Management and Budget in the White House.

Several of Jack’s qualifications impressed the Executive Committee, including:

**Leadership** - In several positions he has led teams of organizations and individuals. At HHS, for example, he spearheaded the Secretary’s outreach efforts to states and communities, coordinating the work of regional directors.

**Commitment to ACE Mission** - His experience at ACEC immersed him in the priorities of the design and construction industry. And as the White House Liaison at DOL, he supported federal efforts to address America’s critical workforce shortages, including those facing our industry.

**Coalition Building** - His several roles as a public policy advocate have taught him how to mobilize networks of organizations to achieve a common goal.

**Communications** - Jack has a strategic approach to communications that will help elevate ACE’s visibility and strengthen our network of affiliate leaders, mentors, alumni, and students.

A life-long resident of the Washington, DC metropolitan area, Jack will be able to take advantage of the strategic decision to re-locate to the nation’s capital. Jack is an alumnus of Wake Forest University in North Carolina. He earned a law degree from The Catholic University in Washington. He and his wife Adrienne are the parents of two boys in middle and high school.

Jack has already begun – to the extent his current job responsibilities allow – to absorb as much information as he can about our organization. He is meeting with staff in person and by phone so that he will be better prepared to take responsibility for the organization on his first full-day on the job. The Regional Directors will help to coordinate planned visits to a number of affiliates over the next 5 months. During the 3 months after starting at ACE, Jack will reach out to members of the Board and Leadership Council and explore ways that ACE can strengthen mutually beneficial relationships with sponsors and other supporters.

Jack’s arrival at ACE next month means the departure of John Strock. John served ACE for 4½ years, first as Vice President for Operations and then as interim Executive Director and later as the full-fledged ED. He helped guide our organization through a period of transition and strategic reorientation. Today ACE National is on solid financial ground and has redeployed staff resources into the field in order to provide assistance to local affiliates in line with the re-oriented strategic vision. The Board and I thank John for his dedication to fulfilling ACE’s mission. We wish him every success in the future.

The announcement is embargoed until Wednesday when it will be publicly announced (it will be on the ACE website). Then feel free to share the release with interested parties.

Thomas Gilbane, Jr.
Co-chair, ACE Mentor Program
From Brad Miller at Hayfield High School: “The ACE Mentor Hayfield Team is off and running strong this year, we conducted 7 sessions beginning in October through Christmas Break. On average our participating student count is 13 each session. We have several returning students from past years. Of the 7 sessions held, two sessions in which the students really experienced design, and construction means and methods were the bridge building competition and a cost estimating/scheduling game. The bridge building session required the students to work in groups of 3-4, using only index cards, and drafting tape to create a bridge that spanned at least 12 inches between supports and hold the most weight.”

The other session was a monopoly-based cost and schedule estimation game created by Dr. Gunnar Lucko PE an ACE mentor, for his students at Catholic University (see article below). Gunnar’s game helps students learn the value of money and time as it relates to risk decision making.

Students at Woodson High School have been very busy with numerous hands-on activities. They participated in the Popsicle Stick Bridge Challenge, Spaghetti Gumdrop Structure Challenge, a Building Components Exercise, as well as going on a Construction Site Visit.

Dunbar students are also busy getting ready for their final projects, learning about Building Systems, MEP engineers, LEED project elements, and various stages of construction.

At Bell, Students were busy learning about the beginning steps to planning their project. From mentor, Lesley Golenor, “Every projects starts with two elements: A need and a site. This session focused on how a need is defined by a building program and how a site can begin to inform how the building program is organized. Using building blocks with room labels, students experimented with laying out a diagram of a typical house program on two different hypothetical sites, discussing how their designs were influenced by various site features and the needs of an imaginary client.”
**Consider Joining a MENTOR TEAM!**

Here at ACE DC, we talk a lot about our awesome scholarships, and how our program helps mold future professionals in the ACE field. Neither of these components would matter too much, though, without the core of ACE: Mentoring. Our program changes young peoples’ lives because our mentors are investing their time and attention in their students.

- Students who meet regularly with their mentors are 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school and 37% less likely to skip a class (Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers Big Sisters).
- Mentors help young people set career goals and start taking steps to realize them.
- Mentors introduce young people to professional resources and organizations they may not know. ([http://www.mentoring.org/about_mentor/value_of_mentoring](http://www.mentoring.org/about_mentor/value_of_mentoring))

Please consider becoming a mentor for ACE DC. As many of our mentors have learned, you gain far more from the students than you can ever give them. It is a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

We also strive to provide a wonderful network of professionals to gather and share in their experiences as mentors and as members of the ACE fields. We host happy hours and other events for our volunteers to socialize and network. Our most recent event was at Local 16 in Washington DC, where nearly 40 mentors and board members gathered to socialize, network and have fun!

### Currently, we are active at the following schools:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Lead Mentor</th>
<th>Lead Mentor Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bell Multi-Cultural High School</td>
<td>3101 16th Street, NE Washington, DC</td>
<td>Lead Mentors: Kellie Farster (SK&amp;A Structural Engineers) and Brian Petruzzi (Weidlinger Associates)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop McNamara</td>
<td>6800 Marlboro Pike Forestville, MD</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Tracy Clay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossland High School</td>
<td>6901 Temple Hills Road Temple Hills, MD</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Daniel Blaise (Clark)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dunbar High School</td>
<td>1301 New Jersey Avenue, NW Washington, DC</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Akilah Darden (Gilbane)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flowers High School</td>
<td>10001 Ardwick Ardmore Road Springdale, MD</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: SL Hopkins (SK&amp;I Architecture)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friendship Charter School</td>
<td>4095 Minnesota Avenue, NE Washington, DC</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Cindy Quiroz (IMPACT) (beginning this semester)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hayfield High School</td>
<td>7630 Telegraph Road Alexandria, VA</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Brad Miller (Hensel Phelps)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herndon High School</td>
<td>700 Bennett Street Herndon, VA</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Blake Edwards (Holder Construction)</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Point High School</td>
<td>3601 Powder Mill Road Beltsville, MD</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Phillip Tanedo (CSA Group) (beginning this semester)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDEA Public Charter High School</td>
<td>1027 45th Street, NE Washington, DC</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Caroline Rice (Parsons)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall High School</td>
<td>7731 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Mark McKenna (Turner Construction Co)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.T. Woodson High School</td>
<td>9525 Main Street Fairfax, VA</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Stephanie Stein (Gauthier, Alvarado &amp; Associates)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Lee High School</td>
<td>1301 N. Stafford Street Arlington, VA</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Brian Scanlon (Jacobs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheaton High School</td>
<td>12601 Dalewood Drive Silver Spring, MD</td>
<td>Lead Mentor: Jeffery White (Gilbane)</td>
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Making Fun and Games of Time and Cost Management

The list of activities from which students of the ACE group at Hayfield Secondary School learn about the construction industry has recently been enriched by an unusual game about time and cost management – German style. “I designed this game inspired by the board game culture in my native Germany, which often emphasizes strategies about economic themes” says Dr. Gunnar Lucko, associate professor of civil engineering at Catholic University of America and mentor.

Dubbed “Built It!” , the game features monopoly-style money, but this is where similarities end. To simulate real-world construction project management, the prices for materials, equipment, and labor change throughout the course of the game. On top of that, Lucko added several event cards that pose further challenges for the students to incorporate into their strategy to finish their ‘project’ on time and within budget. “Among my favorite memories from having played it in my mentor team now for the second year is that most students actually did better than my fellow mentors” he explains cheerfully. The game, which has been created with support from the National Science Foundation (CMMI-0927455), is freely available and only needs one printout per student, a die, and a small token to keep track of their progress. Interested mentor groups are invited to contact him at lucko@cua.edu.

“I would...like to thank the entire ACE mentor program for awarding this scholarship to me and believing I can become a civil engineer. It’s been an honor to know that not only my family and friends wish the best for me, but the ACE mentor program is rooting for me as well.”

Thank you again,

Rahima Baz
Hayfield High School, 2014
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In general, the main goals of ACE DC Affiliate are:

- Establishing mentor relationships between professionals (industry professionals, tradesmen, etc.) and high school students interested in architecture, engineering, construction, and related fields.
- Having guest speakers/mentors educate high school students.
- Visiting construction sites and giving site tours of projects.
- Awarding scholarships through donations and grants.

If you know of any opportunities, or other items of interest to ACE DC, please feel free to contact the Affiliate Director at washingtondc@acementor.org.