Executive Director’s Note
Trisha Grant, LEED AP

Dear Supporters of ACE,

We would like to thank The National Harbor Community Outreach Grant Fund of the Community Foundation for Prince George’s County; and the Clark Construction Group, LLC for their generous holiday giving grant.

In December, we were featured by Education Week in an article by Jamaal Abdul-Alim.

For January’s National Mentoring Month Open House mentor sessions, we were thrilled to have a representative from Senator Patty Murray’s office (D-Washington State) as well as from various foundations, industry firms, and other governmental organizations.

Our Sustainable Design Certificate Program will be rolling out soon, thanks in part to the efforts of our volunteers: Stephen Hattwick (Turner Co.), Lisa Crawford (Capitol Property Development) and Vinod Aranha (USGBC).

Enjoy our Winter Newsletter!

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan pictured here with Executive Director Trisha Grant at the Library of Congress during January’s 2011 National Mentoring Summit, Washington, D.C.

WINTER 2011 CALENDAR

February 2011
• February 23rd. Winter Board Meeting

March 2011
• March 15. CIRT Competition Entries Due
• March 16. Mentor Appreciation Event
• March 31. MTTG Scholarship Applications Due

April 2011
• Coolidge/ASLA Legacy Project – Build It Day
• April 21. ACE Scholarships Applications Due

May 2011
• May 25. Scholarship Awards Breakfast and 10th Anniversary Celebration
• May 16, 17, 18, 19. ACE Student Presentation Nights

SAVE THE DATE
2011 Scholarship Awards Breakfast & 10th Anniversary Celebration
May 25, 2011

In This Issue:
Our 10th Anniversary ................................................................. 2
ACE Annual Scholarship Awards Breakfast ................................................................. 3
ACE Alums ................................................................................. 4
LinkedIn, eBay and our Focus.................................................................... 7
Our 10th Anniversary Celebration

At the Scholarship Awards Breakfast, May 25, 2011

This year’s Scholarship Awards Breakfast celebrates TEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY as well as $328,000 scholarship awards to 98 high school youth, aspiring to careers in Architecture, Engineering and Construction.

HISTORY OF ACE DC

The affiliate was first started in school year 2000-2001, back when there were 60 students on 4 teams; and no Executive Director or staff but a group of passionate volunteers who wanted to continue the program in the DC metro area, though found it challenging to balance the demands of their professions.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

We are proud of the prominent media attention, awards and support received over the years:

- American Architectural Foundation Award
- Economic Mobility Corporation
- Commonwealth Contractor Magazine
- DC Youth Issues, Examiner.com
- Nonprofit Business, Examiner.com
- Metro Architect
- Greater DC Cares Community Impact Award
- Education Week
- Recognition by Ward 1 Councilmember Graham, Ward 3 Councilmember Cheh, and Ward 4 Councilmember Bowser

BOARD PRESIDENTS

Our outstanding Presidents have guided our mission and continue to successfully lead the affiliate to this day:

- **2001-2003: John Sporidis**, Vanderweil Engineers (formerly Syska Hennessy and ARUP)
- **2003-2010: Chris Reseigh**, Parsons Brinkerhoff
- **2010 – Present: Christine Merdon**, Architect of the Capitol (formerly McKissack & McKissack)

“I had an immense feeling of accomplishment when my peers and I presented our hospital design in the ACE Mentor conference in Washington, D.C. I felt elated to be a part of something so sophisticated.”

Michelle Thompson, ’10 ACE Student and Aspiring Engineer
ACE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BREAKFAST

Wednesday, May 25, 2011 @ 7:30-10:30am
National Press Club – Washington, DC

Support scholarships for ACE Mentees’ higher education. For more information, visit www.acementor.org/592 or contact Executive Director Trisha Grant at 202.577.3028 or reach her via email at tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org

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

☑ $5K TOP FLOOR
- Provides $2,500 scholarship
- 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

☑ $3,500 MEZZANINE
- Provides $1,500 scholarship
- 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

☑ $2,000 LOBBY
- Provides $1,000 scholarship
- 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 buffet

☑ $160 Individual Ticket

☑ Coffee Station - $500
☑ Breakfast Buffet - $500

SPECIALTY PACKAGES
Each package purchased provides named recognition during the event; Medium event signage; and helps underwrite event costs
ACE ALUMS

Where Are They Now?

We caught up with a few of our alums to learn about their next, exciting adventures after graduating from high school and the ACE Mentor Program:

Sara Fleetwood – 2010 Scholarship Winner
She is currently a Freshman at Virginia Tech, planning on majoring in Mining Engineering and minoring in Green Engineering. A regular volunteer for various campus activities, some of the clubs that she is involved in are the VPI Cave Club, rock-climbing club, photography club, and outdoors club. She has participated in multiple volunteer activities throughout the school year, but am not involved in any long term ones.

“The ACE mentor program meant a lot to me because, without it, I may not have realized that I wanted to become an engineer. Also, the program helped give me guidance in what I wanted to do with my future, was a great thing to have on college applications, provided experience with computer programs (inventor, revit, autocad, etc.), and provided me with a scholarship that has been very nice to have this year. Thank you for everything that you guys have done for me!”

Josue Fernandez – 2009 Scholarship Winner
A sophomore at Pennsylvania State University, Josue is majoring in Architectural Engineering and minoring in Architecture. He is a member of the Student Society of Architectural Engineers (SSAE), the Student Chapter of the Partnership for Achieving Construction Excellence (S:PACE), and the Blue and White Society.

“The ACE Mentor Program was an invaluable opportunity for me to explore the construction industry.”

Nina Randorf – 2009 Scholarship Winner
She is currently attending the University of Michigan, College of Engineering as a 1st year with sophomore standing. She took a gap year to study and volunteer abroad – of which one of her best experiences was working for the Environmental Corp American Conservation Experience in Flagstaff, AZ. She enjoys volunteering, especially on an international field. She is currently a part of the Michigan Research Community as a Peer Advisor for incoming Freshmen and tour guide for visiting high school seniors. A member of the Michigan Taekwondo Club, Nina fought as a middle weight and the team won 1st place in Mens, Womens and Overall Performance for Division III.

“…the ACE Mentor Program was an anchor for the most difficult and transitional years in my academic career. I joined ACE as a high school sophomore for its hands-on learning opportunity…”

Rachel Ogunsalu – 2009-2010 ACE Mentee
Attending Morgan State University, she is a sophomore studying Electrical Engineering. Memberships, clubs and extracurriculars include BEYA - Black Engineers of the Year Awards 2011; NSBE - National Society of Black Engineers, Assistant Treasurer & Step Team; and a Student Teacher with SEMAA - Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Aeronautics Academy.

“ACE helped me put my life into perspective and encouraged me to look into the profession of engineering (more in depth) as more than what is portrayed. Now I can say I love what I do.”
ACE ALUMS

Where Are They Now?
(cont.)

**Danny Gramajo – 2009 Scholarship Winner**
He is attending Montgomery College and working a full time job. His second year in college, he is still majoring in Architecture. He is also volunteering at the new Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza.

“The ACE Mentor Program always helped me to motivate myself to do well in school. I want to make my mentors and professor proud of me when I graduate from college. My mentors and teacher from the program didn’t give up on helping me to get a scholarship; and to realize that an architect is what I want to be. Thanks ACE Mentor Program.”

**Daniel DeLorme – 2009 Scholarship Winner**
A junior at Michigan State University, he is majoring in Mechanical Engineering with a Biomedical Engineering concentration and a minor in Economics. He is a member of the Triangle Fraternity; American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) at Michigan State University; Habitat for Humanity

“The ACE Mentor Program helped reassure me that I wanted to be an engineer. The program also got me a job at MSU doing architecture and engineering work.”

Other UNIVERSITIES ACE GRADUATES attended or are currently attending include:

- Alleghany College
- Arizona State
- Carnegie Mellon
- Catholic University of America
- Cleveland State
- Colorado State
- Cornell University
- Florida A&M University
- Frostburg State University
- George Mason University
- George Washington University
- Grinnell College (Iowa)
- Hampton University
- Howard University
- James Madison
- Johnson C. Smith University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State
- Montgomery College
- North Carolina State University
- Northern Virginia Community College
- Old Dominion University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Prince George’s Community College
- Radford University
- South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
- Texas Southern University
- University of Hartford
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of the District of Columbia
- University of Virginia
- University of Wyoming
- Virginia Commonwealth
- Virginia Tech
- West Virginia University
- Xavier University
ACE ALUMS

Where Are They Now?

(cont.)

Ilyssa Kaserman – 2009-2010 ACE Mentee
She is a freshman at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, IL. Enrolled in the 5-year architecture program, she is also exploring the Chicago Leadership Academy and vigorously working in the studio.

“ACE was a chance to meet and learn from ACE professionals. The program helped me to explore the architecture profession and decide whether or not to pursue my interest in it for college.”

Louis Ngonzo-Biyo – 2008 Scholarship Winner – is studying hard at Catholic University to be a Civil Engineer. Demonstrating excellent continuity from ACE in high school to continuing in college, he is also Dr. Gunnar Lucko’s academic advisee. (Dr. Lucko is an active ACE DC Board member and mentored Louis at Bell Multicultural High School).

Krystal Robinson – 2003 ACE Scholarship Winner – graduated from Howard University in Electrical Engineering and is currently working at Jacobs Engineering in Arlington, VA.

Jeffrey Bronick – 2007 Scholarship Winner – is now in his fourth and final year at the University of Virginia. He is graduating in May with a Bachelor of Science in Architecture.

For the past two years, he has been interning with the Facilities Asset Management Unit under the Department of Homeland Security. This agency is responsible for dealing with the procurement, planning, funding, design, and outsourcing of all buildings to be occupied by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents that serve/work under BEST (Border Enforcement Security Taskforce), FPS (Federal Protective Service), and GSA (General Services Administration). This job involves mostly strategic management and architectural consulting rather than design, which is something that he has become increasingly interested in after working for the government for the past few years. He hopes to get a job with them after graduation.

Diego Sanchez – 2009 Scholarship Winner – has been interning under his former ACE mentor Ryan Seymore at Gauither Alvarado for the past three years. Transferring from George Mason University, he is a sophomore now attending Northern Virginia Community College and studying Architecture.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Christine Merdon
Architect of the Capitol

Treasurer – Scott Damiecki,
Watkins Meegan, LLC

Secretary – Lou Couture, URS Corporation

Sam Albaugh – Limbach Co.
Stephen Ayers – Architect of the Capitol
Ozzie Belcher, Belstar Inc.
Anthony Dean, Prince George’s County Public Schools
Lou Couture, URS Corporation
Mark Drury, Shapiro and Duncan
Chris Dunlavey – President, Brailsford & Dunlavey
John Fetty, John Fetty Associates
Diane Hartley, Clark Construction Group, LLC
Beverly Hartline, Ph.D – University of the District of Columbia
Christian Jahrling, Turner Construction Company
Thomas James, GSA, Public Building Service
Dannelle Prezioso – McDonough Bolyard Peck, Inc
Robert Kight, Prince George’s County Public Schools
Scott Kratz, National Buildings Museum
Gunnar Lucko, Ph.D. – Catholic University of America, Department of Civil Engineering
Mark Luria, Gilbane Building Company
Rashida MacMurray, Deloitte Financial Advisory Services, LLP
John Martinez, Muse Architects
Jerry Miles, Shulman Rogers, LLP
Jim Needham –MWAA, IAD Office of Engineering, Construction Department
Leslie Payne, American Society of Civil Engineers
Kim Roddis, George Washington University
Robert Wallace, Wilson Elser, Moskovitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP
Enor Williams, Delon Hampton
Kassinda Williams – Holder Construction Company
Mike Withers – M.A. + Associations, LLC

ACE now participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #89925) and the United Way Campaign NCA (#9697)

LinkedIn
Join the ACE Mentor Program of America National LinkedIn page.

Get connected to fellow mentors and other industry professionals here: http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2182867

Use eBay Missionfish to Support the ACE Mentor Program of the Greater Washington Metro Area

Donate items to the ACE DC for auction. Or make an impact when you shop and contribute directly from PayPal.

http://donations.ezbay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=35582

In general, the main identifying goals of the ACE DC Affiliate are:

• Mentors (industry professionals, tradesmen, etc.) for the school year

• Guest Speakers/Mentors (a presentation periodically to students)

• Construction/Site Tours of projects

• Donations/Grant opportunities

If you know of any opportunities, or other items of interest to ACE DC, please feel free to contact Executive Director Trisha Grant at tgrantdcaffiliate@acementor.org.