

Chapter Reports

ACI National Capital Chapter Recognizes Honorary Member Stan Murphy

On May 23, 2023, the ACI National Capital Chapter held a special night at one of the chapter dinner meetings in Tysons Corner, VA, USA.

Stan Murphy was recognized as an Honorary Member of the chapter for his long-term dedication to the chapter and the testing industry. Murphy has been a member of the chapter board for nearly 20 years. He has served on many committees, including the annual awards committee as a juror. The chapter could always count on Murphy for his assistance and participation. Murphy and his wife Barbara are Vietnam War Veterans and after the war, he continued his service in the military holding several management positions in the Middle East, including through Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The chapter thanked Murphy for his service to the concrete industry and most of all, his service to the country.



ACI National Capital Chapter Honorary Member Stan Murphy and Barbara Murphy with Bill Lyons, FACI, ACI National Capital Chapter President



James Baty presenting about the nuances of tilt-up concrete at a ACI National Capital Chapter dinner meeting

When the chapter inquired about learning more about the tilt-up concrete industry, they contacted James Baty, FACI, of the Tilt-Up Concrete Association. Baty provided the sold-out venue with a presentation on the nuances of tilt-up concrete and how it is a valued concrete construction practice. Everyone was astonished by the shapes, forms, colors, and projects, as well as gaining a more profound knowledge of tilt-up concrete.

ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter Participated in the BIG 5 International Building & Construction Show (Dubai)

Five students from the ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter visited Dubai, UAE, in December 2022, to participate in the BIG 5 International Building & Construction Show and the ACI training workshop. Led by the Chapter's Academic Adviser, Faris Matalkah, the students engaged in a 5-day journey with active involvement in the exhibition and attendance at specialized seminars and workshops focusing on various aspects of concrete.

The students had the opportunity to gain experience at international events, contributing to the enhancement of their communication skills. They networked with prominent companies in the civil engineering industry, establishing connections and exchanging contact information.

The students participated in the ACI 318-19 Code Design Training Seminar. Spanning 12 hours, this seminar explored the intricate analysis of various reinforced members. Students were able to engage with the ACI presenters including ACI Staff Engineer Khaled Nahlawi, ACI Past President Charles Nmai, and ACI members Simone Materazzo and Fouad Yazbeck, FACI. Additionally, as part of the exhibition, the students participated in a seminar titled, "Managing a Complex Project." Project managers shared their experiences and insights in handling challenging projects.

Joining in open discussions, they learned about state-of-the-art technologies relevant to the construction industry. The students were introduced to the latest innovations in insulating concrete-based materials, as well as techniques involving concrete for water drainage and the use of fiber-reinforced concrete.



Students from the ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter at the BIG 5 International Building & Construction Show

The students also visited the American University of Sharjah (AUS) and connected with the ACI AUS Student Chapter. The students presented on the activities of the ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter, sharing their personal experiences about participating in similar events. Also, the students toured the AUS concrete laboratory and observed a three-dimensional concrete printer in action and learned about the latest research and technologies employed to reinforce concrete structures.

Finally, the students explored famous landmarks in Dubai, including the Burj Khalifa Tower, Palm Jumeirah, and Dubai Marina.

Shen Zhen University Academic Exchange – Singapore

The Student Committee of the ACI Singapore Chapter (ACISC) collaborated with the College of Civil and Transportation Engineering, Shen Zhen University (SZU), to host an academic exchange visit on July 17, 2023. The academic exchange aimed to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and strengthen the ties between the two institutions in the field of civil engineering.

The day began with a breakfast to welcome participants. Lu Jin Ping, ACISC President, delivered the opening speech. That was followed by Li Wei, ACISC Student Advisor, who provided an introductory talk about ACI's student chapters and their activities.

Zeng Xinyu, ACISC Student Chapter President, welcomed the students from SZU, sharing insights into past ACI events, such as the Samwoh Smart Hub Tour and Mortar Coaster Workshop. She also presented upcoming event proposals, including visits to the Housing & Development Board (HDB)



Participants from the ACISC and SZU academic exchange

Centre of Building Research, a three-dimensional printing seminar at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), and the Northeast Line (NEL) Extension - Punggol Coast Site Visit, aiming to ignite interest among university students in the field of concrete studies.

Tao Neng Fu, a board member of ACISC and Singapore Polytechnic (SP) Lecturer, then introduced the building information modeling (BIM) course he is teaching and the different types of software being used in the industry.

The self-introduction session allowed students from SZU to share their background. The SZU students received goodie bags with mortar coasters crafted by the ACISC student committee; in return, a token of appreciation was presented to ACISC.

Lu and Geng Guo Qing, board member of ACISC and NUS Assistant Professor, conducted a question-and-answer session. This session provided a platform for SZU students to seek clarifications and gain deeper insights into Singapore's civil engineering practices. The exchange of knowledge and expertise further enriched the academic experience of all participants.

The event concluded with a seven-course lunch, facilitating networking and further discussion.

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