

**J. P. MOHSEN, PH.D., F.ASCE
REGION 4 DIRECTOR**

VISION STATEMENT

During my career as an engineering educator, I have found ASCE to be a strong influence in achieving my career goals in many ways. I have richly benefited from all the guidance and services as well as opportunities that have been afforded me by being a member of ASCE. As a student member, I participated in ASCE sponsored activities and competitions. As an Assistant Professor, just starting my career as a civil engineering educator, I actively participated in technical committees as well as conference planning committees. This afforded me the opportunity to publish, present, and most importantly network and meet others who were either, just like me, starting their careers or more mature members who were in advanced stages of their careers. I found friends and mentors in both groups. As my career evolved, I assumed higher positions within ASCE. There have been many milestones throughout my career when I reached out to my ASCE network, both in academia and practice, to seek guidance and support.

I am humbly seeking nomination for the position of ASCE Society Director serving on the Board of Direction. I have been asked to express my vision for ASCE and my role as a Society Director. My vision for ASCE is rather simple. My vision is to ensure ASCE continues to provide the same level of influence on the careers of future ASCE members that it has had on mine. We need to continue to provide growth opportunities, mentorship, and relevant services for the civil engineering students, recent graduates and mid-career engineers. We also need to celebrate and recognize successes achieved by members who have had full careers. Effective communication and providing relevant services are key. Clear communication must exist between the national organization and the regional structure of the organization. This must be a two-way communication providing a clear flow of information from national to the branches, sections, and regions and vice versa. As a Society Director, I will make this a priority for my region. I will clearly communicate the advantages of ASCE membership to civil engineering students and young members. I will make sure the voices of the members at various Branches and Sections are heard at the national level.

The state of economy and budgetary distress that organizations such as ASCE are currently facing make it very challenging to retain the level of member services in terms of numbers and variety and types. However, we must be judicious in the type of member services that we offer, we must clearly communicate and define the value added to the membership by each activity that is sponsored by ASCE and each project in which we engage as a society.

The next few years will be rather challenging, but this situation also gives us the opportunity to sit back, take a good look at who we are, what we want to ultimately achieve, and make the necessary changes that would place us in a position to become an even better and more effective organization in the years to come. Working towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and defining the role that civil

engineers can play in achieving those goals can certainly be used as a blueprint for the future of ASCE as well as the Civil Engineering profession. We all must play a role in promoting the civil engineering profession among the youth of this country.

It will certainly be an honor to actively be a part of the planning process in shaping the ASCE of the future.