



TO: Younger Members in Region 4

FROM: Jon Keeling, D.V. Terrell Committee co-chair, (Jon.Keeling@stantec.com)
Monica Sartain, D.V. Terrell Committee co-chair, (monica.sartain@lipscomb.edu)

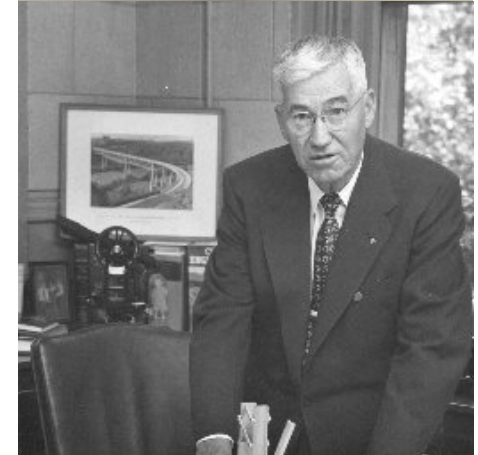
RE: 2026 Daniel V. Terrell Paper Competition

The Region 4 Assembly, which includes members of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) in the states of Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia, sponsors an annual competition and award for a Younger Member who resides within Region 4. A Younger Member is defined as a member, associate member, or affiliate of ASCE (not including student members) not over 35 years of age on February 1, 2026.

The award is named after Daniel V. Terrell of the Kentucky Section. Terrell was Dean of the University of Kentucky College of Engineering and President of ASCE on the Society level in 1954. This award is presented annually for the outstanding paper submitted on a topic established by the Region 4 Assembly. The winner of the D.V. Terrell award receives Society and peer acclaim as well as an impressive bronze plaque and cash prize in recognition of the time and effort put into this competition.

If one chooses to enter the Daniel V. Terrell competition, the paper must be submitted to the Terrell Committee, by the entrant's Section President, by March 1, 2026. Two (2) papers per Section may be entered into the Daniel V. Terrell Paper Competition. The entrant must then present their paper, in person, on Friday, April 24th, during the Spring 2026 Meeting of the Region 4 Assembly, scheduled to be held in Raleigh, North Carolina. Financial assistance to travel and attend this meeting (i.e. travel stipend) may be available from the entrant's Section and/or Branch and should be requested by the entrant to their respective Section/Branch (entrant's registration and award dinner is covered by Region 4). Travel arrangements to the meeting should be coordinated with the entrant's respective Branch and/or Section for reimbursement and with the Region to ensure your presence at the meeting.

For additional information on the Daniel V. Terrell competition, please contact your Section Officers or the Committee members noted above.



2025 DVT Award Winner Austin Jarrell

THE DANIEL V. TERRELL PAPER COMPETITION



The Region 4 Assembly of the American Society of Civil Engineers is proud to conduct the Daniel V. Terrell Paper Competition for Younger Members. This prestigious competition has been held for over 60 years and commemorates Dean Terrell's many years of work and service to the Society and especially his leadership in the establishment of the District Council System, the predecessor of the Region 4 Assembly. All members, associate members or affiliates of ASCE (not including student members) who are 35 years of age or less on February 1, 2026, residing in Region 4, are eligible to submit papers in this competition. Student members of Region 4, while not eligible for this competition, are encouraged to submit for the Daniel W. Mead Prize for students. The following rules are to be observed:

The Daniel V. Terrell competition topic must address professional ethics with respect to the following question or statement:

Engineering the Public Welfare: How Civil Engineers Engage and Advance Communities Through Ethical Infrastructure Design in accordance with the ASCE Code of Ethics

Civil engineering is not only about the design and construction of vertical and horizontal infrastructure. It is an essential part of shaping communities and building a better quality of life for all persons. In this essay, critically analyze the ethical responsibility of civil engineers to recognize the historical, cultural, and social needs of a community and to incorporate those considerations into their work. Discuss how civil engineers can engage with communities to develop solutions that protect historical and cultural resources, improve access and mobility, and expand economic and social opportunities. Use real-world examples and reflect on how emerging technologies and policies can support these objectives.

The following rules apply to the Daniel V. Terrell Paper Competition:

- No individual may submit more than one paper in a given year.
- Please include your ASCE member ID number, your name, and Section/Branch on the paper.
- The paper shall be of such length that it can be presented orally in not more than fifteen minutes and contain no more than 2000 words.
- Submit one electronic copy of the paper, preferably a PDF, with a cover letter to your Section President so that he/she can meet the March 1, 2026 submittal deadline. **Entrants should coordinate with their respective Section well in advance of the submittal deadline, as the official submittal to the competition must come from the Section.** Late submittals will not be accepted. Each Section is limited to two entries.
- The paper must be presented orally by the author, in person, on April 24th, during the Region 4 Assembly at the Spring 2026 meeting, scheduled to be held in Raleigh, North Carolina. Confirm your presentation time prior to scheduling your travel to the event. Virtual presentations are prohibited, and papers that are read verbatim, not presented, will be disqualified.

Contestants are encouraged to seek financial support from their Sections and Branches for associated travel expenses.

Authors are encouraged to develop and apply their own original thoughts. The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) and natural language processing models (NLP) such as OpenAI's ChatGPT® are neither encouraged nor discouraged. However, if such models are used, all instances shall be cited as work completed by the respective generative AI/NLP. Failure to cite all instances of generative AI/NLP use will be considered plagiarism. Citation Guide is available on the ASCE website.

AWARDS:

• **First Place** - Bronze plaque (see picture on front) + \$500 cash prize

• **Second Place** - \$250 cash prize

COMPETITION SCORING:

Presentation of Paper - 50%
(Delivery and Effectiveness - 30%, Choice of Words, Literary Style Pronunciation and Enunciation - 15%, Timing - 5%)

Content of Paper - 50%
(Material - 25%, Acquaintance with subject - Scope - 15%, Originality - Independence - 5%, Arrangement - 5%)

Note:

While the topic for D.V. Terrell competition is the same as for the Daniel W. Mead Prize, it is not necessary that an entry be made for both competitions. The deadline for entry into the Society's Daniel W. Mead Prize is February 1, 2026.

For more information on the Mead Prize please go to the ASCE website link below:

<https://www.asce.org/career-growth/awards-and-honors/daniel-w-mead-prize-for-students>