University of Florida

American Society of Civil Engineers

Student Chapter

Quarterly Report (July 2014 – September 2014)

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As the summer came to an end and the semester started back up, UF ASCE has begun preparing for another great year. Since July, we have started back up with activities both here at the University of Florida and our community. This includes three E-board meetings, two general body meetings, a YMG Resume workshop, and mentoring at a local middle school.

Starting on August 27th, we kicked off our semester with our first E-Board meeting to discuss both long term and short term goals for our chapter. Some of these goals included increasing membership, fundraising enough money to regional conference, becoming more involved in the community, and creating a more cohesive chapter. We also discussed the actions that we plan to take in order to achieve these goals and the time frame for each step. This was a great way to begin the semester because it allowed for our 23 E-board members to express their ideas and move forward on the same page. Our next two meetings were follow ups on previous weeks and what we could do to improve not only our E-board, but also our general body meetings.

Following our first E-board meeting, we had our first general body meeting a week later on September 3rd. Since this was our first general body meeting, we had an information session where we described what we can offer to students interested in joining ASCE. We had booths set up that talked about our Steel Bridge team, Concrete Canoe team, mini competition teams, community service events, and ASCE in general. This was a very productive meeting as we had nearly 120 members show up, many of which were new members that signed up for UF and National membership. Our next general body meeting reverted back to our standard meeting in which we had Civil Engineers talk to us about their work with MWH Global. They discussed some of the everyday tasks they carry out as project managers, as well as what they look for when hiring both interns and entry level employees.

One of the biggest benefits of being a part of UF ASCE is what we do outside of the classroom. On the evening of September 25th, we had Thomas Kriger of the Gainesville Younger Members Group hold a resume workshop. This provided students with the opportunity to learn about what employers want to see on resumes, how to conduct yourself in interviews, and a general overview of what is to be expected of students as they entered the work force. Along with professional development, we also strive to encourage character development by giving back to the community. Starting on September 18, members began mentoring students at Lincoln Middle School by helping with their science department. We are in the beginning stages of helping with a water tower they must construct for competition in April. We are also signed up to participate in a local elementary school Engineering Carnival, a home facelift, and an adopt road for this upcoming semester.

Overall, we continue to try and improve our chapter in any way possible. We are implementing new ideas into all aspects of our chapter including how we conduct E-board meetings, general body meeting, and UF ASCE events. We will continue to have companies come speak at our meetings, participate in community service, interact with professionals, and create an environment members are excited to be a part of.