

## YPIG Annual Conference Meeting

Date: 9/13/2017

Location: San Antonio, TX

Attendees: Ross Brown (ASDSO) – *Staff Contact*  
Greg Richards (Gannett Fleming) – *Chair*  
Yohanes Sugeng (OWRB) – *ASDSO Board Sponsor*  
Cory Miyamoto (GEI) – *Networking/Social Activities Lead*  
Emily Keck (GEI) – *Networking/Social Activities Lead*  
Allen Orsi (Pare Corporation) – *Membership Lead*  
Andrew Orlovsky (PA DEP) – *Educational/Career Development Lead*  
Keith Thole (USACE – St. Louis District) – *Student Outreach Committee Liaison*  
Holliday Keen (ND DEQ)  
Brandon Harris (Gwinnett County Government)  
John Roche (MD Dam Safety)  
Katherine Maher (GEI)  
Trevor Grout (FTN Associates)  
Natalie Rogers (FTN Associates)  
Emily Schwartz (Black & Veatch) – *USSD YP Vice Chair*  
Elliott French (USACE – Omaha)  
Nate Young (Schnabel)  
Katelyn Riley (ASDSO)

1. Introductions (and sign in)
2. Background and structure of YP Group
  - a. Group officially approved by ASDSO Board in summer of 2017 to increase involvement and opportunities for young professionals within ASDSO.
  - b. Will be a “grassroots” effort.
  - c. Structure
    - i. Board Sponsor – Yohanes Sugeng
    - ii. Staff Contact – Ross Brown
    - iii. Co-chairs – Kate Aulenbach & Greg Richards
    - iv. YP Membership Leads – Allen Orsi & Jeff Blass
    - v. YP Education/Career Development Leads – Dave Caouette & Andrew Orlovsky
    - vi. YP Networking/Social Activities Leads – Cory Miyamoto & Emily Keck
3. Review Charter
  - a. See attached document.
  - b. Definition of Special Interest Group: Communities created around a shared interest in specific areas of knowledge, learning, technology, or other characteristics of membership. Special interest groups can offer additional benefits for association

members, such as access to subject-specific information and resources, educational opportunities, networking with like-minded peers, and volunteer leadership opportunities.

- c. Three-year term limit for chairs.

#### 4. Budget

- a. The FY18 budget for the Young Professionals Interest Group is \$1,000. This is for the year that runs from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. Will possibly be used at NE Regional Conference.
- b. Will need to request a budget for FY19.

#### 5. Review of Past Year Activities

- a. Group formation in summer of 2017
- b. Two conference calls held by group leadership
- c. Annual Conference activities
  - i. YP Dine Around – Successfully coordinated by Cory and Emily. Plan to continue and expand at future conferences.
  - ii. YP of the Year Award announced (will start in 2018). Criteria for award were discussed:
    - 1. Criteria should not favor a specific group of people (e.g. consultants, regulators, etc.).
    - 2. Someone who has shown passion and commitment to dam safety, demonstrated leadership, or otherwise made a significant contribution to the Association, their respective organization, or the dam safety industry in general.
    - 3. Individuals should be nominated.
    - 4. Possibility of doing this award on a regional level was discussed. Depending on response/interest in the first few years, this could be considered in the future.

#### 6. *Membership Group Discussion – Allen Orsi*

- a. Two-fold approach
  - i. Increasing involvement and opportunities for existing ASDSO members
  - ii. Reaching out to YPs who are not currently ASDSO members
- b. Brainstorm Session
  - i. Reach out to students (Keith is liaison with Student Outreach Committee)
  - ii. Collaborate with ASCE groups to recruit/hold activities
  - iii. Invite past scholarship winners/applicants to be part of this group
  - iv. Designate a YP Vice-Chair for each of the Association's committees.
  - v. Seek out keynote speakers from the YP demographic
  - vi. Use social media to recruit new members/create a YP dam safety community (LinkedIn, Facebook)

- vii. Include clear articulation of benefits for younger members of ASDSO membership provide a section on the ASDSO website for the younger member committee highlighting upcoming events and other information.
- viii. Consider discounting the attendance fee for conferences and/or seminars for younger members to encourage organizations to send their younger professionals

7. *Education and Career Development Group Discussion – Andrew Orlovsky*

- a. What do YPs need that we aren't getting from general/technical sessions?
- b. Brainstorm Session
  - i. YP sessions/track or webinars on topics such as:
    1. Basics of dam safety
    2. Leadership/Ethics
    3. Communication skills
    4. Marketing
    5. Project Management
    6. Fundamentals of Professional Practice (John Bachner)
  - ii. Use the ASDSO blog as a platform to highlight YPs
    1. Katelyn will be starting this soon
    2. Could have a featured article/section from YPs
    3. Will be easier to publish on blog than in journal
  - iii. Host a panel discussion on career advice for students and YPs

8. *Social/Networking – Cory & Emily*

- a. Brainstorm Session
  - i. Coordinate social/networking events (at least one per conference)
    1. Dine Around
    2. 5K run
    3. Community service projects
  - ii. Use Regional Conferences (smaller, cheaper, easier to send YP) – next year it will be in Lancaster, PA
  - iii. Coordinate field trips/social activities if there is enough interest on a regional level (joint with USSD YP)
  - iv. Blog
  - v. Create mentoring opportunities between established professionals and YPs – Could have “assigned” seating at awards luncheon at next year's conference. YP sit next to an experienced professional and visit over lunch, make a connection, and perhaps continue that interaction over the course of the conference.

9. *Group meetings/conference calls*

- a. Biannual coordination meetings will be led by Co-Chairs for anyone who wants to participate from the entire YP Interest Group:

- i. September (Annual Conference)
  - ii. March/April (via conference call)
- b. Additional, more frequent meetings (via conference call) will be led by individual group leaders as needed to plan and carry out activities and initiatives in the three focus areas (Membership, Education/Career Development, and Social/Networking). Only individuals who sign up to participate in these planning groups will be invited to attend these meetings.

10. *Sign ups*

- a. Membership
  - i. Allen Orsi (Lead)
  - ii. Jeff Blass (Lead)
  - iii. Brandon Harris
  - iv. Keith Thole
- b. Education/Career Development
  - i. Dave Caouette (Lead)
  - ii. Andrew Orlovsky (Lead)
  - iii. Holliday Keen
  - iv. Brandon Harris
  - v. John Roche
  - vi. Nate Young
- c. Networking/Social Activities
  - i. Cory Miyamoto (Lead)
  - ii. Emily Keck (Lead)
  - iii. Holliday Keen
  - iv. Brandon Harris
  - v. John Atkins
- d. Rosters with contact information will be sent to Group Leaders separately.