

Professional Construction Estimators Association

# Orlando, FL







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PCEA would like to thank all our sponsors for supporting us throughout the year.



## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**



David Colvin

<u>Landreth</u> <u>Lighting</u>

PCEA Orlando Chapter 22 President

I hope everyone is as excited for the reprieve from the heat as we move into our "Fall" here in sunny Florida. The occasional low in the low 60s and highs in the upper 70s are welcome! Our annual Steak on the Lake membership drive had an excellent turnout of nearly 100 attendees! I want to thank Anthony Luise, Chris Kelley, and Adam Blalock from the PCEA Triangle Chapter for attending. I know they had a great visit, and I hope everyone who attended enjoyed themselves - It sure seemed like everyone did! We had another social this month at Rock Pit Brewing; although it was not a huge crowd due to the rain (and parking), it was still a great time. Thanks to all who came out!

On October 24th, we have our member meeting at the Citrus Club with a presentation on phase three of the Doctor Phillips Performing Arts Center. DPAC Executive Vice President of Operations Spencer Tong will be presenting on the future development of the front lawn area of DPAC. He will be joined by Douglas Spencer of Spencer Consulting Services, Inc. Together, I am confident it will be an informative and exciting presentation.

Our 22nd Annual Randy Welch Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament is returning to the traditionally held November date on the 3rd. With just a few spots left for hole sponsors and foursomes, hop on the PCEA website to register so as not to miss out! PCEA has a few events left this year, including the annual Members Christmas Party, which will be on Friday, December 8th, at Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery. I apologize in advance for all the bath, kitchen, and lighting renovations this party will inspire! As always, thanks for being a part of PCEA Orlando Chapter 22.

## October 2023

### www.pcea-orlando.org

## UPCOMING EVENTS to register visit our website www.pcea-orlando.org

- October Membership Meeting Dr Phillips Performing Arts Center UPDATE 24 Oct 2023 5:30 PM Citrus Club 255 S Orange Ave #1800, Orlando, FL
- PCEA 22nd Annual Randy Welch Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament @ Mission Inn Presented by Tharp Plumbing Systems
  03 Nov 2023 7:00 AM Mission Inn Resort & Club, El Campeon Course
- PCEA 22nd Annual Randy Welch Memorial Golf Tournament SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 03 Nov 2023 7:00 AM

ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR ALL EVENTS



Randy Welch Memorial Golf Tournament Sponsorship Opportunities 22nd ANNUAL RANDY WELCH MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

(Benefiting the PCEA Scholarship Fund)



#### MISSION INN EL CAMPEON

NOVEMBER 3rd 2023



REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST - 7AM SHOTGUN START -8AM

COST - \$1,200 PER FOURSOME INCLUDES- Breakfast, range balls, 18 holes of golf, lunch

Raffle and mulligan packs available for purchase at event



## GREENBUILD 2023: BUILDING EXECS CHAMPION ESG

## PCEA-ORLANDO Officers & Board Members

Going green can save green and ensure long-term success, industry leaders say.

For that reason, construction executives continue to stress the need for environmental, social and governance initiatives and integration within construction, according to a recent panel session during the 2023 Greenbuild International Conference and Expo.

Many construction firms still lack ESG strategies, said Tommy Linstroth, founder and CEO of Green Badger, a Savannah, Georgia-based software provider for ESG metrics. But the number that do is on the rise, especially as companies like Amazon and Microsoft increasingly demand ESG compliance from their suppliers, including those in the construction industry.

Aside from addressing growing demands from clients, ESG strategies also provide numerous benefits, added Linstroth. Those benefits fall into three broad categories:

• *Business opportunities.* Meeting ESG requirements opens doors to potential clients and partners, a plus for gaining market share and assuring future profitability.

• *Talent attraction and retention*. ESG companies appeal more to job seekers and retain employees at a higher rate, said Linstroth.

• *Transparency and risk reduction*. ESG reporting promotes transparency and helps companies position themselves to anticipate future regulations.

"How many meetings are they going to ask you 'where is your sustainability supplier scorecard?' or 'what are you doing for an ESG program?," said Linstroth. "How much of that business can you afford to lose before you start taking ESG seriously?"

But the ESG journey still has roadblocks.

The lack of standardization for ESG scoring can overwhelm contractors with multiple, often divergent, frameworks, said Linstroth. That ultimately can lead to analysis paralysis.

#### Leaders push ESG-related initiatives

ESG strategies encompass not only environmental aspects but also social and governance considerations. That requires collaboration across departments such as human resources, legal and information technology.

Nevertheless, the construction industry's track record with risk management lends itself naturally to address these issues, said Jennifer Taranto, vice president of sustainability at STO Building Group, a New York City-based construction management and general contracting company.

To start, Taranto recommended creating a culture of inclusion in both the office and the jobsite. That includes physical safety and overall well-being, such as mental health support resources.

Next, Taranto emphasized the need for transparency and data standardization within the industry. She said "we really need to align around how we're tracking data, how we're reporting data and what data is most important."

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Ryan Poole, global sustainability leader at Redwood City, California-based DPR Construction, also highlighted the importance of aligning with global frameworks. He suggested frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals and urged companies to consider partnerships with organizations like the UN Global Compact.

Poole then stressed the importance of integrating diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives into ESG strategies. He shared some of DPR's various DEI programs, and advocated for apprenticeship programs and enhanced benefits.

Those initiatives also echo the focus around ESG for Fluor, an Irving, Texas-based global contractor, said Cheryl Beuning, global sustainability specialist at the firm.

Fluor has invested in more than 30 energy reduction initiatives around the world in order to make significant reductions, said Beuning. The contractor upgraded lights to LED, which reduces energy consumption and lowers greenhouse gas emissions, replaced many gas and diesel vehicles with EVs and developed its own software to capture emissions data.

Additionally, Fluor hosts the Supply Chain Summit, an event that facilitates discussions between partners and subcontractors about the biggest challenges facing the supply chain, she added. The company also created the Fluor Cares program, an initiative that provides school supplies to underprivileged children.

These initiatives highlight the importance of not only improving buildings, but positively contributing to the communities in which they operate, or the S in ESG, said Linstroth.

"Our key [with ESG] is to just start. No matter where you are, take that first step," said Linstroth. "Maybe it's just one office, but it's a starting point. After you benchmark that, you can move into jobsites. Then, you can influence things like subcontractors or vendors."



#### 2024 - 2025 Undergraduate / Graduate Scholarship Competition PROGRAM DEADLINE: November 01 2023 at 11:59 PM EDT (Midnight)

The scholarships for undergraduates are \$2,500 per year (\$1,250 if you have half a semester) and can be renewed for up to three years. Graduate awards are \$3,750 annually up to a maximum of \$7,500.

The application will open July 1, 2023 and must be submitted by midnight EST on November 1, 2023. This scholarship is for the 2024-2025 academic year that begins fall 2024. If you are selected as a finalist, you will be notified in February 2024. The next step is an interview with a contractor in your area. Following the interview, scholarship recipients will be selected and announced in March 2024. Students will receive their awards in the fall of 2024.

#### There are two very important things to remember:

1. You must meet the criteria to apply as an Undergraduate or Graduate.

2. Make sure that your recommenders (one teacher and one employer) know that you are requesting their recommendation. Your application is not considered submitted until all sections are complete and you hit the 'Submit' button at the bottom of the page. You will receive a confirmation email when your application has been submitted.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CLICK ON THE LINK

10/4/2023