From President’s Desk

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your President in 2015. I am pleased to inform you that we have now officially embraced our Architecture colleagues. We can now be officially called the American Society of Indian Engineers and Architects. I would like to extend my warm welcome and appreciation to all new and returning ASIE members, sponsors, supporters, and friends.

My promise to you is to be your best spokesperson who will always strive to uphold the mission and goals of ASIE. My top three priorities to serve you better are:

- Diversifying the Membership to include branches of engineering other than Civil Engineering as well as Architects
- Significantly enhancing our website so that members have access to the organization’s activities
- Improving the value proposition of Membership Meetings via convenient meeting times, locations and topics
President’s Message (Cont’d)

I also recognize that the needs of Younger Member and Student Members should be catered to for succession planning and will take active steps in this regard.

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.” – John C. Maxwell

I would like to thank our previous board, advisors and past presidents, for staying true to our goals and doing an excellent job in organizing events and sponsoring scholarships for young students pursuing careers in engineering and architecture. It is you, our members, that make us The American Society of Indian Engineers and Architects, and for that, we would like to thank you for your continued support and affiliation with us. And if you are not a member yet, come join us, so our TEAM will be stronger.

We have had an excellent 20 years. I will try my level best to keep up the momentum. I would like to congratulate all the elected Board Members and Advisory Council, and with their support, I will bring ASIE to the next higher level.

"Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved." – Mattie Stepanek

Raj Basavaraju, P.E., PTOE
HNTB
January Events

Welcome to New President

Ravi Arora, P.E.
HCPID Retired

Showri Nandagiri, P.E.
NHCRWA

Ram Gupta, P.E.
NASA Johnson Space Center

Abraham (Roy) Joseph
One point, Inc.

Sekhar Ambadapudi, P.E.
KIT Professionals

ASIE members and supporters welcomed Mr. Raj Basavaraju, MBA, P.E., PTOE, as President for the year 2015. Raj is a life member of ASIE and has been playing an active role in ASIE committee since 2012. He served as Membership Committee Chair in 2013 and as Treasurer in 2014.

Raj holds Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Osmania University, MS degree in Civil Engineering (Transportation) from Iowa State University and MBA (Organization & Strategy) from University of Maryland – Robert H Smith School of Business.

He is currently working as a Senior Manager with HNTB. He is also actively involved with other Organizations in Houston such as Transportation Advocacy Group, ACEC, Institute of Transportation Engineers, and ASCE.

Raj is married to Manu and has a 4 year old daughter Ananya.

Mr. Raj Basavaraju presented Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Sekhar Ambadapudi for his best efforts as President during 20\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary Year 2014
2015 Board and Council (Welcome Ceremony)

From left: Showri Nandagiri, Sai Gowthami Asam (Secretary), Ram Gupta, Raj Basavaraju (President), Sekhar Ambadapudi (President 2014), Hari Jaswal and Rajesh Tolikonda (Treasurer) at the Welcome Ceremony held at Mayuri Restaurant on January 22nd 2015.

The 2015 ASIE Board comprises of (4) Executive Committee members and (5) Board of Directors. Mr. Raj Basavaraju – President, Mr. Naresh Kolli – Vice President, Ms. Sai Gowthami Asam – Secretary, and Mr. Rajesh Tolikonda – Treasurer continued from 2014 Board. The new Board of Directors elected unanimously for 2015 include Mr. Dinesh Shah, Mr. Madhu Kilambi, Mr. Chetan Vyas, Ms. Poolkeshi Patel, and Mr. Hari Jaswal.

Raj organized and appointed Chairs to various Committees including Membership, IT, Fundraising, Program, Public Relations, Scholarships, Student Member, Young Member, Account Review and Conflict Resolution Committees.

Advisory Council consists of (5) members. Mr. Ravi Arora and Mr. Showri Nandagiri were newly elected, while Mr. Ram Gupta and Mr. Abraham (Roy) Joseph continuing from last year. Mr. Sekhar Ambadapudi (President 2015) joined the Council.
January Events
Architects in the ASIE Family!

ASIE started off 2015 with officially changing the title to AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INDIAN ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS (ASIE).

Moving forward the Annual Scholarship Program will also include Undergraduate and Graduate Students pursuing degrees Architecture. ASIE is proud to include Architects in the family.

Celebrating the occasion, the first technical seminar of the year was presented by Ms. Joanna Yaghooti, AIS, LEED, BREEAM AP on “Sustainable Urban Design” on January 22nd at Mayuri Indian Restaurant.

Ms. Yaghooti is the Director of Sustainable Design at PageSoutherland Page. She works to ensure the highest level of LEED certification can be achieved within each project’s scope. In 2010, Ms.Yaghooti became the first U.S citizen accredited as a BREEAM AP.

The event was well attended by over 40 Engineers and Architects.

Mr. Raj Basavaraju presented Ms.Yaghooti Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of ASIE Board and Council
January Events

Spreading the word in town!

ASIE was represented by Raj Basavaraju (President) and Sai Gowthami Asam (Secretary) at the University of Houston Prospective Student Evening held at India House on January 29th 2015. The meeting was addressed by Dr. Renu Khator, Chancellor and President of University of Houston.

ASIE team presented an overview of ASIE’s Annual Scholarship Program during the Financial Aid discussion and perked up interest with many parents and students of Indian Origin. Interacted with parents, students and professionals and gave away about 20 membership forms to interested individuals. ASIE team felt that every opportunity is precious to spread the word about ASIE and increase membership.
February Events

Volunteering Together for a Good Cause!

ASIE was represented by 13 enthusiastic Volunteers at the Greater Houston (Region IV) MathCounts Competition held at FLUOR Corporation in Sugar Land on February 14th 2015.

ASIE was one of the organizations with big group of volunteers continuing our annual tradition.

ASIE volunteers posed in ASIE and MathCounts T-shirts after the fun hard work!

Sekhar Ambadapudi and Rohit Desai volunteered as Proctors.

February Events

Technical Seminar

Dr. S. Rao Guntur, Executive Vice President and one of the founding partners of Zentech, Inc presented a Seminar on “Asset Integrity Management of Fixed and Floating Structures with ZAIMSTM (Zentech Asset Integrity Management Solutions)” on February 19th at Madras Pavilion Restaurant, Sugar Land, Texas.

The event was well attended by over 55 professionals. ASIE sponsored full course Indian dinner to all attendees and provided 1 Hour PDH certificates.

Dr. Rao addressed questions posed by audience at the end of the seminar. The audience liked the seminar and appreciated the knowledge transfer.

Mr. Vas Vellore (ASV Consulting) presented Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Rao Guntur
YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR 2015

Mr. Naresh Kolli was nominated as Young Engineer of the Year 2015 by ASIE and was awarded during Houston Engineers Week.

Mr. Naresh Kolli P.E. is an assistant project manager at Geotest Engineering, Inc. Houston, Texas. He has over 9 years of experience in the civil, geotechnical and environmental fields and has worked on verity of projects with several public agencies and private clients.

Naresh received a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Kakatiya University, India in 2002 and a Master’s degree in Civil Engineering from McNeese State University, Louisiana in 2005. He is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Texas and Louisiana. Naresh has been involved with ASIE since 2009. He has been a part of ASIE Board as Treasurer, Membership Chair and currently serving as Vice President. Naresh has been married to Sirisha for 7 years and has a 2 year old boy Aarush.
UH Engineering Alumni Association (EAA) E-Week Reception

From left: Ashish Bagga (President 2011), current President Raj Basavaraju, Sekhar Ambadapudi (President 2014), and Hari Jaswal.
Seated (from left): Sai Gowthami Asam (Secretary), Award/Scholarship Recipient Alexy Idicula, Priya Patel and Poolkeshi Patel.

For the 11th year in a row, the Engineering Alumni Association (EAA) hosted its annual Eweek Reception on February 24th in honor of National Engineers Week. This year, the EAA raised over $54,000 in scholarships for 61 students and several student organizations.

ASIE was one of the 26 Award Sponsors participated in the event. ASIE representatives attended the UH EAA Reception to present EWeek Award “Indian Engineers – Engineering the Future Award” with $500 scholarship to Alexy Idicula, Civil Engineering Senior Student at UH. The reception was well attended by over 200 people.
2015 HOUSTON ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Michael Talbott, P.E., D.WRE
The Director of the Harris County Flood Control District in Houston, Texas

Mr. Michael Talbott, P.E., D.WRE, has been with the district for 33 years. Under his direction, the District carries out its mission to devise countywide flood damage reduction plans, implement those plans, and maintain the infrastructure. That mission is executed in the third most populated county in the United States, with a population in excess of 4.3 million, which includes the City of Houston, the nation’s fourth largest city. The District has jurisdiction over the primary storm water facilities in the county, which consist of about 1,500 channels, totaling nearly 2,500 miles in length, as well as more than 60 regional storm water detention basins and a 2.5-square mile wetlands mitigation bank. Mr. Talbott is active in a number of associations, local committees and task force groups relating to storm water planning and environmental management. Mr. Talbott is a licensed professional engineer with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Houston.

Celebrating the Engineers Week Houston, ASIE sponsored a table at the EOY GALA event held at Westchase Hilton Hotel on February 27th 2015. The event was well attended by over 300 professionals from various Companies, Organizations in Greater Houston Area.

ASIE representatives Vishal Merchant, Sekhar Ambadapudi, Raj Basavaraju, Sai Gowthami Asam, Poolkeshi Patel, Naresh Kolli, and Roy Joseph attended to congratulate Mr. Talbott and show ASIE’s involvement in the Greater Houston Area.
Science and Engineering Fair of Houston (SEFH)


ASIE was the Special Judge Awarding Agency and was represented by 14 enthusiastic volunteers at Science and Engineering Fair of Houston (SEFH) on February 28th 2015 held at Alumni/Athletic Center, University of Houston. ASIE selected 14 1st place awards in the Junior, Ninth Grade and Senior Divisions for Individual and Team Projects in Aerospace, Chemical, Electrical & Mechanical, and Materials & Bio-Engineering categories.

ASIE stood true to its mission by encouraging young generations in STEM field held in Greater Houston Area in February 2015.
March Events

Ethics Seminar

Mr. Rick Valdes, Investigator IV with the Compliance & Enforcement Department, Texas Board of Professional Engineers presented an Ethics Seminar on “Professional Practice Updates & Ethics” on March 19th 2015 at Ashiana Indian Restaurant. The event was well attended by 40 Professionals. 1 Hour PDH certificates (counting towards Ethics Credits) has been provided by ASIE.

Mr. Valdes discussed latest updates and clarified several questions posed by the audience.

Mr. Mohan Ballagere (Geotest Engineering) presented Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Rick Valdes
Upcoming 2015 Events

- May 11th - Luncheon with Mr. Dale Rudick, P.E.
- June 13th - Annual Picnic at George Bush Park
- June 25th - Technical Seminar by ADS Pipe
- July 23rd - Technical Seminar by Versabar Inc.
2015 Executive Committee

PRESIDENT
Raj Basavaraju, P.E., PTOE
HNTB

VICE PRESIDENT
Naresh Kolli, P.E.
Geotest Engineering

SECRETARY
Sai Gowthami Asam
Versabar Inc.

TREASURER
Rajesh Tolikonda, EIT
Kenall Inc.

2015 Board of Directors

Dinesh Shah, MBA, P.E.
Shah Companies.

Chetan Vyas, P.E.
KIT Professionals

Poorkeshi Patel, EIT
KIT Professionals

Madhu Kilambi, P.E.
AIRKK Engineers

Hari Jaswal
Dow Chemical

2015 Council

Ram Gupta, P.E.
NASA

Ravi Arora, P.E.
HCPIP (Retired)

Sekhar Ambadapudi, P.E.
KIT Professionals

Showri Nandagiri, P.E.
NHCRWA

Roy Joseph
One Point Inc.