

*The National Capital Section (NCS)*  
**COST FORUM**



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September 2010

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Program Year**

**President:** Dan Melamed - (202) 586-6239

**Vice President:** Cristina Sabolcik - (410) 276-0076

**Secretary:** Niyi Ladipo - (703) 641-9088

**Treasurer:** Mike Withers - (301) 498-5020

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Irving Nemi - (202) 962-2309

Solomon Asomaning - (703) 415-0835

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**Membership Outreach Committee Chair:**

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**NCS Website:**

[www.aacei-ncs.org](http://www.aacei-ncs.org)



The Cost Forum is the newsletter for the National Capital Section (NCS) of AACE International. Its purpose is to inform members of the activities and policies of the NCS and to provide pertinent technical and professional information. Articles are welcomed from the membership, friends of the NCS, from the industry and related professional societies. Advertising space in this newsletter is available. Advertisements from companies seeking cost management professionals as well as from cost management professionals seeking employment are published in this newsletter at no charge. Advertisements from education providers are also encouraged. Contact Dan Melamed at [dan.melamed.dc@gmail.com](mailto:dan.melamed.dc@gmail.com) or at (202) 586-6239 for information regarding placing an ad or to submit an article.

**Greetings to all National Capital Section Members, Friends,  
and Colleagues.**

I would like to welcome all of our members back from their summer vacations for the coming year of the National Capital Section. I would like to report that the National AACE meeting at Atlanta, Georgia was very well attended. I am also happy to report that the National Capital Section had managed a good showing at the National meeting from a number of perspectives. Members of the NCS had achieved national recognition through the following awards:

1. McDonough Bolyard Peck won the AACE Industry Appreciation Award;
2. Charlie Bolyard was honored as a fellow of the AACE; and
3. Niyi Lapido was presented with this year's Outstanding Woman in Project Controls Award;



Also, John Ciccarelli, Section leaders in Region 2 (our region) won Outstanding Regional Director Award. Last, but certainly not least, the NCS received an Outstanding Section award.

I am also happy to announce that two members from the greater capital region have been awarded scholarships by the AACE: Richard Thompson of Catholic University of America and Virginia Owen of Virginia Tech. Congratulations to you both, I hope that these scholarships mark the beginning of productive careers.

I would like to thank all of you; these awards are a well deserved tribute to the individual members. However, they are also a reflection of the hard work and energy of the members of the National Section. I thank you all.

With the end of summer we start the New Program Year with a field trip scheduled for the third week in September to the Dulles Metrorail extension project, which is being engineered and built by Dulles Transit Partners.

Following the field trip, we will be hosting a reception at the Swiss Ambassador's Residence along with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers – Washington Section, the D.C. Society of Professional Engineers, and the Tau Beta Pi Washington Alumni Chapter.

In October, we will be hosting a talk by Ms. Jennifer Echard from the Government Accountability Office, will discuss their Cost Estimating and Assessment Guide: Best Practices for Developing and Managing Capital Program Costs" as well as the state of cost estimating within the Department of Energy.

Details for these and other events can be discussed in this newsletter, as well as on the NCS website: [www.aacei-ncs.org](http://www.aacei-ncs.org) Also, anyone interested in giving a talk for an NCS meeting should contact me.

Thank you for your help. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Dan Melamed, CCC  
President NCS**

AACE assumes no responsibility for statements and opinions offered in this newsletter or by speakers at events sponsored by AACE. Views expressed by them do not necessarily represent the official position of AACE International, its section or committees, or its Officers or Directors.

*The September NCS meeting will be a field trip, scheduled for  
Friday, September 17, 2010*

*The NCS will be holding a field trip to the Dulles Corridor Metrorail  
Project*

*A Description of the Project*

Phase 1 of the Dulles Metrorail extension is a project of 11 miles connecting from the West Falls Church Station to Wiehle Avenue (for phase 1, phase 2 will extend to the Dulles International Airport) this phase includes 5 stations and a short tunnel. Being engineered and built by Dulles Transit Partners (DTP) which is a joint venture of Bechtel and URS. Construction is just underway as NTP was given in March 2009. DTP's contract value was \$1.7 billion (hard money lump sum). Construction is currently under 20 percent complete. Project is expected to be completed in mid 2013.

**Friday, September 17, 2010 Field Trip Details**

Time: Meet at site at 11:00 AM.

Location: Please MapQuest or Google Map to  
Bechtel Vienna Offices  
1595 Spring Hill Rd. Suite 600  
Vienna, Va. 22182  
(703) 852-5900 (this should be a number for anyone who seeks directions and general information).

Notes: 1. You must wear sturdy work boots (steel-toed not required)  
2. Vest, Hard Hat and Safety Glasses will be provided

**SPACE IS LIMITED YOU MUST RESERVE IN ADVANCE.**

**Please send an e-mail to [dan.melamed.dc@gmail.com](mailto:dan.melamed.dc@gmail.com) before close of business on Tuesday  
September 14, 2010 to confirm attendance**

*Upcoming AACEi Leadership Retreat*

*Saturday, October 2, 2010 at the  
Magnolia Hotel  
Houston, Texas*

The Leadership Retreat is a joint event supported by the Diversity Task Force, Women in Project Controls Committee and the Young Professionals Task Force. The event space is limited and early bird registration fees apply.

**There will be two notable authors: Susan Colantuono and Ed Muzio presenting on the following topics:**

- “Speak the Language of power Without Losing Your Voice”**
- “Leading from Personal Greatness & Leaders at Every Level”**
- “Four Secrets to Liking Your Work: Find the Job You Want Where You Are”**
- “Surviving Complexity: Working More Hours Is Not the Answer”**

**Details for this workshop may be found at the following website:**

**<http://www.aacei.org/regions/2010retreat/>**

## An NCS Embassy Reception is scheduled for Wednesday, September 29, 2010

*A Reception at the Swiss Ambassador's Residence will be held along with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers – Washington Section, the D.C. Society of Professional Engineers, and the Tau Beta Pi Washington Alumni Chapter.*

Switzerland is one of the leading countries in science and technology. We will learn more about their research and engineering from the Embassy's Counselor for Science and Technology, Christoph Ebell, head of the Office for Science, Technology and Higher Education of the Embassy of Switzerland in the United States.

The evening will include a buffet reception with a chance to talk with the Embassy staff, fellow engineers, and guests. The cost of the event is \$27 per person. The buffet will include chicken skewers, quiche, small open-faced sandwiches, Swiss cheese, and tomato-mozzarella. There will be wine, beer, soft drinks, and coffee.

### **Wednesday, September 29, 2010 Trip Details**

**Time:** Meet at site at 12:00 PM.

**Location:** Embassy of Switzerland – Ambassador's Residence  
2902 Cathedral Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20008

**Cost:** \$27.00 per Person

**Registration:** Please note that the Embassy requires a complete list of attendees' names in advance, only people who are registered can be admitted. To register for this event, contact the ASME Washington Section Executive Secretary, Andrea Girona by phone at (703) 489-9503 or via e-mail at: [agirona@verizon.net](mailto:agirona@verizon.net) by September 21.

**Directions:** The Swiss Ambassador's Residence is located on 2902 Cathedral Avenue just west of the intersection with 29th Street NW. The closest METRO stop is Woodley Park/Adams Morgan on the Red Line (about a 7 min. walk).

PLEASE NOTE that this reception is NOT in the small Swiss Embassy building at the corner. It is in the Ambassador's Residence on the hill. Please go to the right building. Parking on the Embassy grounds should be available. Tell the guard at the gate that you are going to the engineers' reception.

### **EVP Preparation Workshop Announcement**

Management Technologies offers the EVPPrep(tm) Exam Prep two day workshop for the public and as an on-site event for clients. The next public workshop is scheduled for Reston, VA on Sept 16-17. AACE members can register at early discounted rate of \$895. For the workshop outline, testimonials, and the registration form, go to the following website:

<http://www.mgmt-technologies.com/evpoutline.html>

### **EVP Study Guide Available**

Ray Stratton's Earned Value Professional (EVP) Study Guide is available as a spiral bound book or a pdf download. This Study Guide contains over 230 exam-like questions, answers, and explanations, as well as study hints and exam taking strategies. For more information, including testimonials, and ordering information, go to the following website:

<http://www.mgmt-technologies.com/EVPguide.html>

*The October NCS meeting will be scheduled for  
Thursday, October 21, 2010*

*GAO's "Cost Estimating and Assessment Guide" and  
"Actions Needed to Develop High-Quality Cost Estimates for  
Construction and Environmental Cleanup Projects"  
(GAO-10-199)*

This presentation discusses the GAO's "Cost Estimating and Assessment Guide: Best Practices for Developing and Managing Capital Program Costs" and the state of cost estimating within the Department of Energy - what policies and procedures DOE has in place and what actions DOE has recently taken to improve cost estimating.

**Presented by  
Ms. Jennifer Echard  
Government Accountability Office**

Jennifer Echard has been a senior cost analyst in GAO's Center for Technology and Engineering since 2002. At GAO she is involved in performing cost analyses and technology audits on a variety of programs spanning many different agencies. While at GAO, Jennifer co-authored the GAO Cost Assessment Guide. She has over 20 years experience in the fields of cost estimating and technology auditing.

**Thursday, October 21, 2010 Meeting Details**

Time: Networking: 6:00 p.m.  
Refreshments and Talk at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Faithful+Gould Offices  
Main Conference Room  
1725 Duke Street, Suite 200  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703.684.6550

*(Near King Street Metro Stop on the Yellow/ Blue Line)*

Cost: \$10.00 per Person

Registration: Please send an e-mail to [dan.melamed.dc@gmail.com](mailto:dan.melamed.dc@gmail.com) before close of business on Tuesday October 19, 2010 to confirm attendance

**Picture Corner: Congratulations to the Two AACE Scholarship Winners from the  
National Capital Region**



**Richard Thompson  
Catholic University of America**



**Virginia Owen  
Virginia Tech**

## 2010-2011 Planned Program of Events

[Unless otherwise noted all planned events are scheduled from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.]  
Planned events are subject to change, please check the NCS website for updates

Date	Speaker- Employer Title [Extra Information]	Location
November 18, 2010	Ms. Lauren Buckler, JMT LEED Basics: A Look at Building Certification, Professional Accreditation & Cost Implications	Hill International, Inc., 1225 I St., NW, Suite 601, Washington, DC 20005
December 2010 [Specific Date TBD]	Holiday Party	McDonough Bolyard Peck 3040 Williams Drive Suite 300 Fairfax, VA 22031
January 2011 [Specific Date TBD]	Columbia Networking Event	Michael's Pub, 8630 Guilford Road, Columbia, MD 21046
January 20, 2010	Mr. John Claypool, AECOM " Validation of Military Construction Costs in Afghanistan using the Parametric Cost Engineering System (PACES)	AECOM, 3101 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201

## SM&A plans to conduct the following two public seminars in the Washington DC area this fall

### Advanced Project Scheduling

*Alexandria, VA (November 4-5, 2010)*

**A 2-Day Course held Thursday-Friday (14 PDUs)**

This workshop provides key insights into disciplines and best practices of scheduling while exploring industry proven techniques for managing schedules throughout the complete lifecycle of any project. In addition to best practices and real world case studies, this workshop identifies obstacles to effective scheduling, methods for schedule development, practical use of constraints, methodologies for developing and implementing IMP/IMS, schedule risk management, enterprise schedule techniques, and a review of contemporary scheduling tools.

### Advanced Earned Value Management Systems

*Alexandria, VA (November 11-12, 2010)*

**A 2-Day Course held Thursday-Friday (14 PDUs)**

This workshop describes operational techniques for monitoring and tracking project performance and reviews methods for calculating and verifying the estimate at completion. It provides the basis for answering such management questions as, "How efficiently are we using our time?" "When is the project likely to be completed?" "Are we under or over our budget?" "How efficiently are we using our resources?" "How will we achieve the current management estimate at completion?" The workshop reviews the DCMA's Tripwires and explains how these are applied. The workshop also addresses decisions regarding establishing management reserve (MR) and assessing the rate of MR application.

#### Venue:

Carlyle Crescent Center

1940 Duke Street, 2nd Floor

Alexandria, VA 22314

(Located at the edge of Old Town Alexandria near the King Street Metro Station)

**Lodging:** Seminar attendees are responsible for booking their own accommodations. Marriott Residence Inn, Embassy Suites, and Hilton Hotel are within a few blocks of the Carlyle Crescent Center. Please contact hotels directly for rooms and rates.

SM&A is an AACE International Approved Education Provider. AACEi members will receive a 10% discount on registration fees.

For more details and to register for either of these seminars, please go to our website at:

<http://www.smawins.com> (Click on the Public Seminars tab.)