

ConsultA

ACEI Newsletter - 24 June 2021

Information and Advice for ACEI Members

ACEI Work Arrangements

The ACEI office is temporarily closed. Email info@acei.ie with queries or contact sarah.ingle@acei.ie.

Covid-19 Updates

- [ACEI](#)
- [EFCA](#)
- [FIDIC](#)

Online Resources

- [HSE](#)
- [Revenue](#)
- [Institute of Public Health](#)
- [Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection](#)
- [Health & Safety Authority](#)
- [World Health Organisation](#)
- [Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [Health Protection Surveillance Centre](#)
- [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

New Members for ACEI Executive Board

ACEI is pleased to welcome two new members to the 2021/22 [Executive Board](#), Joe Burns, Arup and Siobhán Moneley, T. J. O'Connor & Associates.

Joe Burns is a Director in Arup and its Buildings Group Leader. This group primarily focuses on Arup's Property, Healthcare, Science Industry & Technology and Social Infrastructure sectors. Joe is a chartered structural engineer by training, and has over 30 years' experience of building design on a broad variety of projects across a range of sectors. Joe's current role involves leading Arup engineering and advisory teams providing multi-disciplinary services, with a clear focus on identifying and meeting client needs and project objectives. Joe was elected to the Executive at the virtual ACEI AGM held on 23 April 2021.

Siobhán Moneley is BIM Director in T. J. O'Connor & Associates and has over 23 years' experience in civil and structural engineering. As a Chartered engineer, Siobhán has successfully implemented, managed and promoted the use of BIM. She qualified with a Post-Graduate Diploma in Collaborative BIM from TU Dublin in 2017 and is a BRE ISO 19650 and BIM Level 2 Certified Practitioner. Representing the ACEI, Siobhán also provides expertise and technical advice to the Build Digital Project Team and SME Focus Group, working under the Construction Sector Group (CSG) Innovation and Digital Adoption Sub-Group. Siobhán was co-opted to the Executive Board as an RConsEI member on 15 June 2021.

ACEI Committee Work on Irish Water Confirmation Letters

The ACEI Structures and Civil committees have been making great progress with Irish Water recently on behalf of member firms. The Irish Water consultants' confirmation letters in relation to construction, as an alternative to Irish Water's requirements for "Chartered Engineer" sign-off, have been under revision over the last few months. These are now in the last stages of agreement. It is expected that the final versions will be issued over the coming months and further updates will be provided as soon as possible.

Technology & Innovation Needs Survey

Members are reminded to complete the important online survey regarding the technology & innovation needs of your firm. Only one submission per firm is required and EY will be compiling the feedback obtained. Please ensure the survey is completed on your firm's behalf so that the views of consulting engineers are included along with architects, surveyors, contractors and others in the built environment sector. The deadline to complete the survey is 25 June 2021 and the online survey link can be accessed [here](#).

Joint PII Letter to Government

ACEI, RIAI, SCSi and Engineers Ireland recently sent a [joint letter on PII difficulties](#) professional firms in the built environment sector are having, to 12 government ministers and officials. The letter, signed by ACEI Secretary General Sarah Ingle and her counterparts in the other three associations, Kathryn Meghen, Shirley Coulter and Caroline Spillane, outlined PII matters of increasing concern for consulting engineers, architects, surveyors and others in the sector. ACEI continues to advocate strongly on behalf of its member firms in relation to PII, including participation in an upcoming industry meeting with the Office of Government Procurement (OGP), GCCC members and insurers.

Air Quality Viewers in European Cities

As Europeans, we benefit from the most comprehensive air quality monitoring network in the world. Accurate and timely data comes from measurements of fine particulate matter, taken from more than 400 monitoring stations across the continent. Policies to reduce air pollution have greatly improved the quality of the air over the last 30 years. The [European city air view](#) can be used to check air quality in any European city and compare it to others. Cities are ranked from the cleanest to the most polluted, using average levels of fine particulate matter, or PM2.5 over two calendar years.

Characteristics Defining Thriving Consultants

In a recent article in [New Civil Engineer](#), author Nick Francis outlines certain characteristics he believes will define consulting engineering firms that will thrive in the future. These include the need to be flexible, useful and evolve quickly. He notes that: "Successful engineering consultants of the future will focus on eradicating the gap between 'design' and 'delivery', understanding that their success is judged by the outcomes of a project, not the quality of a drawing or a report."

Recommended Summer Reading

Organisational Psychologist Adam Grant has [12 recommendations for summer reading](#). Grant's list includes a variety of topics including: leadership and change; fear and courage; commitment and meaning; judgement and decision-making; and communication and conflict. Grant's most recent book is [Think Again – The Power of Knowing What you Don't Know](#).

International Women in Engineering Day

Yesterday, 23 June 2021, was International Women in Engineering Day. To mark the occasion, Science Foundation Ireland's (SFI) Research Centre MaREI [profiled female engineers](#) in order to celebrate the outstanding achievements of women engineers worldwide.

Recent Good News

- The ACEI 2020 Overall Project of the Year Winner *The Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge* over the river Barrow has won a [major international award](#) for engineering excellence and design. The bridge was awarded the "Outstanding Structure Award" in the Bridge or Other Infrastructures category by the *International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering*. Member firms Arup and Mott MacDonald were joint ACEI Overall Award winners for this landmark structure including the N25 New Ross Bypass Project.
- ACEI member firm [Fehily Timoney & Company](#), was featured in a recent Business Post supplement highlighting innovations in Cork city and county. This year Fehily Timoney is working on a variety of projects within infrastructure, urban development, waste and renewable energy sectors.
- Congratulations to ACEI member firm DBFL which has been awarded *Investors in Diversity Bronze* accreditation by the [Irish Centre for Diversity](#). This important recognition demonstrates that DBFL has a strong foundation on which to embed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) across the firm, and that it is ready to become an even more diverse and inclusive company.
- To mark [World Environment Day](#) on 5 June, Michael Fleming, Associate in ACEI member firm, Garland, published: [The Hazardous Waste Obstacle – is it a real problem?](#)

Skillnet Ireland Digital Programmes

[Skillnet Ireland](#) continues to provide programmes aimed at closing the digital skills gap, upskilling the Irish workforce, establishing new career pathways and ensuring businesses have access to the talent they need. Working in partnership with industry and academia, recent new initiatives have been developed in cyber-security, artificial intelligence, blockchain and digital marketing.

Invitation to Free ACE UK Virtual Roundtable

Members are invited to attend a [free industry roundtable event](#) hosted by ACE UK at 12pm on 30 June. Panellists at the event, *Delivering Construction Consultancy in a Changing World*, will discuss the changing nature of the built environment industry which now delivers across the entire lifecycle of an asset. They will also address why clients should reconsider out-of-date preconceptions, and what the entire supply chain can do to improve its operations.