

25 March 2018

K.N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE

I have reviewed the election materials provided by the Nominees for the office of President-elect for a term commencing October 2018.

I support K.N. Gunalan (Guna) in his nomination for President-Elect. While understanding the historic and traditional role of the Civil Engineer, Guna foresees the direction the profession is headed and is seeking solutions to ease the transition while striving to maintain civil engineering as a lauded profession. For example, while more females are entering the profession than in previous decades, retention rate is low due to multiple motives. Guna is not afraid to seek out solutions and try to implement them to retain professionals. Guna also recognizes the importance of politics and policy in the civil engineering profession. The intersection of politics/policy and engineering is something most engineers typically shy away from, preferring to stick to the math and science of the profession. Guna recognizes and acknowledges the integral role politics and policy play in the civil engineering profession on a daily basis. He also recognizes the importance of civil engineers and other trained professionals having a say in creating, interpreting, and implementing policy on a federal level, especially when those changes take place in Congress.

I believe Guna is an excellent choice for the office of President-Elect for ASCE. He stands for a profession that is ethical, inclusive, knowledgeable, and technically excellent while facing non-traditional challenges with an open mind. He actively seeks out-of-the-box, innovative solutions to the challenges facing our profession while striving to maintain civil engineering as a highly regarded and sought-after profession.

Please accept this document as my personal endorsement of K.N. Gunalan for the position of President-Elect.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Sloan Ziegler, Ph.D., P.E., ENV SP, M.ASCE
Younger Member Chair, Mississippi Section
Project Engineer, Waggoner Engineering
102 Willow Drive, Ridgeland, MS 39157
ASCE Membership Number: 949018