

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ENDORSEMENT

**DATE:** 16 March 2018

**NOMINEE:** 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.

**Please accept this document as my personal endorsement of Dr. K. N. Gunalan for the position of President-elect of ASCE:**

I met Dr. Gunalan (“Guna”) when he was a Ph.D student at Texas Tech University and I was the faculty advisor to the Texas Tech ASCE Student Chapter. Guna was impressed with what the ASCE student chapter did and joined the chapter and was active in several of the chapter’s projects. After graduation and receiving his doctoral degree, he continued to be active in ASCE while employed by a major geotechnical engineering firm. His continued activity in ASCE ultimately resulted in his election as a member of ASCE’s Board of Direction (BOD).

As a member of the BOD, Guna has been heavily involved in both implementing the Society’s current Vision and its current plans as well as contributing to ASCE’s future. He has explained to me that aspirations for ASCE are a continuum that transcends an individual’s term of service as well as a generation of service. But, he also points out that without a collective vision, the dream cannot become a reality. ASCE’s Report Card that has been a huge success would not have been a success without a vision. The primary focus of the Report Card outcomes, until recently, has been on transportation infrastructure based on the immediate need. The ultimate objective will be to start focusing on all other essential fields, including water and energy. With commitment to these strategic initiatives and to carrying out the will of the BOD, he has developed an excellent vision statement that he would present to the BOD should he be elected as the next ASCE president-elect.

Guna correctly points out that ASCE should continue to encourage higher education, research, and innovation to see the birth of the next generation of sustainable infrastructure projects that will make the quality of life even better for the generations to come. He states that members of ASCE should also recognize that projects of any complexity or magnitude enhance quality of life.

During the 2014 Global Engineering conference, Guna developed and chaired a session titled, “Transforming Vision into Reality” to highlight major undertakings that

took leadership of ASCE's members to make those visions a reality. ASCE members need to take on leadership responsibility to make dreams a reality.

Guna has stated that it is his vision that ASCE stay nimble by taking advantage of emerging technology and tools to enable our members to continue to enhance their value to the global community. He further states that ASCE should always strive to preserve the integrity and dignity of our profession. ASCE should send a strong message to the rest of the world that we strive for "zero tolerance" on ethical digressions and continue to support its members to achieve their personal goals without having to compromise. He has also importantly pointed out that as the global world continues to shrink, we need to fight marginalization of our profession as well as enhance the pride and value of service that we provide so that we continue to attract the best and brightest to the profession.

Guna chose to be a civil engineer so that he could make a difference in our world. He hopes to continue to make a difference for our ASCE members as we collectively work together to move our profession closer to the aspirational global vision of improving the quality of life for everyone while sustaining our planet for all creations and for generations to come.

As his doctoral student faculty advisor and his continued friend, I wholeheartedly recommend Dr. K. N. "Guna" Gunalan to be elected as ASCE's next president-elect and I state with certainty that he will provide excellent leadership to ASCE when he becomes ASCE's president.

**Respectfully submitted,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Warren K. Wray".

Warren K. Wray, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE., F.ASCE  
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