



Membership



Gala Dinner



Social Events



New Website



Awards



Education & Scholarships

AAAEA - Capital Area goals

To further the public welfare whenever engineering knowledge is involved and to act upon matters which are of the concern of the engineering profession.

Promote cooperation and mutual assistance among the members.

Conduct technical seminars to update members' knowledge on the latest technologies and regulations affecting the engineering profession.

Empower AAAEA members for professional achievements.

Establish scholarship programs to encourage qualified and talented students to pursue engineering field studies.

Network with other professional organizations.

Serve the professional interest of the general membership and strive to promote professional consciousness and fellowship through collective interdisciplinary activities all in accordance with recognized and established engineering ethics, and within existing applicable laws.

Mission Statement

The AAAEA is a professional organization dedicated to helping its members succeed in their professions by offering professional development and networking among each other through seminars and social activities.

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



2016 Executive Board Members

Executive Committee

- Ziad A. Sabra, Ph.D., P.E. - President
- Mohamad Jamal, P.E. - Vice President
- Emad Yasin - Treasurer
- Nazha Sarkis - Secretary
- Amal Abou-Sef - Public Relations

Standing Committee Chairs

- Eissa Haj-Hamad, P.E. - Memberships
- Walid Halboni - Social Activities
- Abed M. Khaskia, Ph.D., Education & Scholarships
- Rabih Najib, Ph.D., P.E. - IT & Communications

Ad Hoc Committees

- Mohamad Shahine, Ph.D. - Nomination & Election
- Mohamad Shahine, Ph.D. - ByLaws

AAAEA - Capital Area
6801 Oak Hall lane, P.O. Box 6064
Columbia, MD 21045-9998

aaaeadc.com

What we did in 2016

Membership

Under the leadership of Mr. Eissa Haj-Hamad and his committee members, the membership in 2016 increased significantly from 52 paid members in early 2016 to 89 members (59 full members, 9 Associate members, 17 Student members, and 4 BOT members) in December of 2016. Prior to amending the Bylaws this year, the payment procedure for membership renewal and for new members to join in was not clear and many members did not renew their membership until late in the year. The Amended Bylaws, hopefully, will correct this issue in the future. A new Membership Brochure and a new membership renewal letter were prepared this year to help in membership drives in 2017.

Financials

The current Executive Board took over on January 1, 2016 with \$40,654.48 at Capital One Bank. As we hand off the financials to the new Board on January 1, 2017, we currently have \$54,578.68 (\$13,924.20 of additional generated revenue this year.)

Education and Scholarships

Under the leadership of Dr. Abed M. Khaskia, the Education and Scholarship Committee did outstanding work this year organizing several technical seminars, and awarding four scholarships to the following students:

- Hadeel Hejazi, Aerospace Engineering, West Virginia University
- Adam Haj-Hamad, Chemical Engineering, University of Maryland/Baltimore County
- Husni Alasadi, Biomedical Engineering, Goucher College, Maryland
- Abdulmajid Arnous, Engineering, Howard Community College

IT and Communications

A new web site was unveiled this year to enable mobile access and provide user friendly navigation to the various website activities. Thanks to Dr. Rabih Najib, Chair of the IT and Communications Committee, for spearheading this endeavor. In addition to this significant accomplishment, the IT and Communications Committee kept us all informed of all events and activities, updates on the Gala venue, and also posted minutes of meetings and conference calls. Also, Kudos to C.J. Killen in Ziad's office, who was instrumental this year in managing all of Constant Contact e-mail announcements, designing and preparing the Gala program flier, and also designing and mounting of all the Gala poster boards.

Social Activities

Our Chair of the Social Activities, Mr Walid Halboni, and his volunteers did an outstanding job planning and organizing several social activities throughout the year including the Spring picnic, Iftar Dinner, a farewell dinner for our Board of Trustee member Mr. Khalil Zaied, and a year-end celebration dinner in Virginia.

ByLaws

The Bylaws Committee, chaired by Dr. Mohamad Shahine, proposed several amendments to our current Bylaws. The Amendment was passed by 82% of the active votes and became official on September 6, 2016. This was the first Amendment to our Bylaws since the inception of the AAAEA-Capital Chapter in 2008. The changes in the Bylaws were needed to streamline our operating procedures and making our day-to-day functions more practical and compliant. Dr. Shahine worked tirelessly for months to accomplish this task successfully.

Dinner Gala

This year's Gala was attended by 320 members, guests, friends and sponsors. We had an unprecedented number of sponsors: 5 Gold, 15 Silver and 18 Raffle sponsors. **The net profit from the Gala proceeds was \$19,717.66.** Expenses were \$22,312.34. The Gala continues to draw a significant number of support from the private and public sectors as well as many high ranking government officials in the neighboring regions. Dr. Haitham Hijazi was recognized and acknowledged at the Gala by the Honorable Prince Georges County Executive, Mr. Rushern L. Baker, III and Ms. Carla A. Reid, CEO and General Manager of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC).



Public Relations

AAAAEA continues to prosper and grow among its professional peers in the engineering and architectural profession. Year after year, we have been able to reach out to newer engineering and architectural firms, real estate land developers, legal offices supporting engineering firms, high-profile government officials, IT technologists, and member firms of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and the American Society of Civil Engineers to support our Dinner Gala. In 2016, AAAEA was represented at the State's "Annual Middle Eastern Legislative Night" in Annapolis at the Maryland House of delegates, to meet and showcase our organization's leadership and introduce ourselves to state delegates. Furthermore, the annual Gala Dinner has become a major outreach venue for AAAEA, which also has significantly raised our profile and the awareness of our local presence. This year we received an unprecedented support from a total of 38 companies from the Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia areas—a major accomplishment since the inception of AAAEA in 2008. Thanks to its members who work tirelessly to showcase our pride!

Awards

Two awards were presented at the Dinner Gala on October 29, 2016 as follows:

- Mr. Abdullah (Adam) Jiroun, Division Chief, Road Maintenance and Construction, Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation, was awarded the **"Bridge Award"** for his behind the scene work in the Arab American Community in Prince George's County and for his tireless effort to empower his fellow Arab American engineers to do their best and set high standards for our community.
- Ms. Norma Nashed, Founder and President of Restore a Child, a non-profit 501 (C) (3) organization, was awarded the **"Humanitarian Award"** for her unparalleled humanitarian work nationally and internationally.

National Conference Representation

The AAAEA-Capital Chapter was a big winner this year at the National AAAEA Conference in Las Vegas. Delegates and observers from our Chapter attended the National AAAEA Conference on November 11 and 12th, 2016, and accounted for almost 30-percent of the total attendance. The focus of the Annual Meeting was on streamlining the relationship between the National and local chapters, redefining the responsibilities of the National Board Officers, voting on Amended Bylaws, and setting new objectives for 2017. Our Chapter brought in fresh ideas, new perspectives and new challenging goals that were well accepted. Ziad A. Sabra, President of AAAEA Capital Chapter, moderated multiple sessions related to the suggested National responsibilities and objectives in 2017. Dr. Rabih Najib also moderated the Bylaws Amendment to the National Bylaws. The meeting concluded with an election of the new Executive Board and five Board of Directors. Ziad A. Sabra was nominated and elected to serve on the National Board of Directors.



New Items This Year

We now have an established mailing address for the association: AAAEA (Capital Area), 6801 Oak Hall Lane, P.O. BOX 6064, Columbia, MD 21045-9998. Also, we accomplished a major milestone this year--we were successful in registering AAAEA as a Tax Exempt non-profit organization, thus relieving us from paying sales taxes in the future. AAAEA became a Tax Exempt non-profit organization on 9/30/2016. This privilege saved us over \$900 in sales tax for the Gala Dinner.

Nomination and Election

The Nomination and Election Committee, chaired by Dr. Mohamad Shahine, administered the election of the Executive Board for 2017. Nomination of several positions was accepted by the deadline of November 7, 2016. The official election took place on December 3, 2016 at the Howard County Library in Savage, Maryland. The positions were elected as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Mohamad Jamal, P.E., President | • Jamileh Mogin, Public Relations, Maryland and DC |
| • Abdallah Adas, P.E., Vice President | • Rabih Najib, Ph.D., P.E., Chair, IT & Communication |
| • Eissa Haj-Hamad, P.E., Treasurer | • Mamdouh Elsakka, Chair, Education and Scholarships (appointed by the newly Elected Executive Board) |
| • Mohamad Shahine, Ph.D., Secretary (appointed by the newly elected Executive Board) | • Asma Soliman, Chair, Social Activities |
| • Mohammad Ayyoubi, Public Relations, Virginia | • Jina AlAssadi, Chair, Membership |

Congratulations to the new Executive Board, and we look forward to working with you!