



CUBAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

BULLETIN
WINTER 2016

C-AACE EVENTS

- > *Dia del Ingeniero Francisco de Albear: January 11, 2016*
- > *BOD Meeting: January 13, 2016*
- > *Misa del Ingeniero: La Ermita January 16, 2016*
- > *Cena Martiana: January 28, 2016*
- > *BOD Meeting: February 10, 2016*
- > *Cuba Infrastructure Scholarship Competition: February 27, 2016 at Casa Bacardi*
- > *BOD Meeting: March 9, 2016*
- > *C-AACE/ACE Annual Gala: March 19, 2016 at Hilton Airport*
<https://squareup.com/market/cuban-american-association-of-civil-engineers>
- > *CUBAN museum: Grand Opening TBD*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM JOSE L. ACOSTA, P.E.

First and foremost, I hope you and your family had an enriching and peaceful holiday season. C-AACE is at excellent position to offer our members excellent events throughout 2016, that will attract all of us on many levels. Earlier this year, C-AACE members attended La Misa Del Ingeniero and La Cena Martiana with La Junta Directiva. C-AACE sponsored the local and national Future City event, as well as assisted with mentors and judges at every level. The Cuban Infrastructure Scholarship Challenge is finalizing its final touches before the event is held at Casa Bacardi on the University of Miami Campus on February 27, 2016. Students from the University of Miami, Florida International University, the University of Florida and Florida Gulf Coast University are expected to compete. A special "thank you" goes out to all the volunteers and sponsors for their efforts, hard work and commitment. The Gala Committee is in full force preparing for an excellent event at the Miami Airport Hilton on March 19, 2016. We expect a record crowd and will be recognizing some excellent engineers, projects, teams and students with our various awards. This year, in honor of our friend and colleague Delfin Molins, along with his family, we will be awarding a scholarship in their name for the first time. We also continue to support our student chapter at Florida International University. Thank you for your membership and involvement to keep this momentum going.

FEATURED COLLEAGUE

ALICE N. BRAVO, P. E. DIRECTOR OF MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT

Alice N. Bravo is a Professional Engineer who has dedicated nearly 25 years of her life to the engineering industry in the Transportation area as a consultant, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), City of Miami and now Miami-Dade County. Ms. Bravo has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineer degree from the University of Miami and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Florida International University. She is a licensed engineer in the state of Florida and in Puerto Rico. In July 2015, Alice joined Miami-Dade County government as Director of Miami-Dade Transit. Recently, the County Commission approved Mayor Gimenez's plan to merge transit and public works to create a new department, the Department of Transportation and Public Works, with 4,200 employees under Alice's purview. Alice has taken this very challenging role with the same enthusiasm and professionalism that is so characteristic of her. As Director of Transportation and Public Works, Alice has embarked on the following goals and priorities:

1. Making transit service clean, safe and reliable;
2. Making Miami-Dade County "car optional" by improving routes and services so that using public transportation is convenient; and

3. Working with other Transportation agencies such as FDOT, MDX, the MPO and municipalities to coordinate Transportation improvements and resources to maximize the benefits to the traveling public.

In addition to these goals, Alice indicates that with the merger of these two departments, she will work to refocus their goals and objectives to a singular vision: improving mobility in Miami-Dade County. Additionally, she wants to improve customer service and the approval processes to be streamlined and timely. Many initiatives are underway including the improved synchronization of Miami-Dade County's signals on priority corridors and converting the signals to an adaptive system.

Prior to joining Miami-Dade County, she was the Deputy City Manager/Chief of Infrastructure for the City of Miami. She managed six City Departments, including Capital Improvements and Transportation Program, Public Works, Planning & Zoning, Building, Real Estate and Asset Management, and Information Technology. She was responsible for many initiatives at the City, including initiating the City's highly successful trolley system and heading the one-year planning, design and construction



effort for the \$20m flex park at the Miami Marine Stadium, which recently hosted the Miami International Boat Show. Also, she was with FDOT, where she served as District Six Director of Transportation Systems Development, responsible for all production aspects of the District including all Planning, Public Transportation, Environmental Management, Design and Right of Way activities. Under her expertise, Alice has been responsible for managing a number of diversified projects of design, building, finance, operation, and maintenance including the \$1 billion Port Miami Tunnel; the innovative I-95 Express Project that involved close coordination at the Federal, State, and local levels; and the SR 826/SR 836 major interchange reconstruction project valued at \$550 million.

Alice married her college sweetheart, Walfry Pevida, P.E. who has recently launched his own engineering firm, Pevida Highway Designers, PLC and they have two children, Aidan, age 13 and Nadia, age 11.



2016 FICE ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE GRAND AWARD

SECTION 5 PALMETTO SR826/836 INTERCHANGES (BRIDGES 9, 11, 15 AND 19)

The Section 5 Palmetto SR826/836 Interchange (Bridges 9, 11, 15 and 19) has won the 2016 FICE Engineering Excellence Grand Award in the Structures category. FINLEY was the Engineer of Record for the four segmental bridges. The segmental bridges were precast, balanced cantilever and erected with a 460 ft. launching gantry. The bridge lengths varied between 1,100 ft. and 2,450 ft. in length and are 47 ft.-wide, with a maximum span length of 266 ft. The curved segmental bridge ramps are the third level of the interchange, with radii down to 590 ft. and have a maximum superstructure deck height of 95 ft. above the ground. All of the bridges are supported on 24-inch pile foundations and reinforced concrete piers and caps. The bridge design offered unique challenges integrating underlying roadways, canals and MOT requirements into the layout of these segmental bridge ramps.

This project is located in the Miami International Airport flight path and had FAA requirements. The high level segmental flyovers are built over multiple roads that carry 430,000 vehicles per day and are the tightest elevation curves erected in the United States. The overhead erection eliminated the need for falsework and cranes, and five MOT phases that would have impacted traffic, thereby providing a safer work environment. The use of polystyrene in the hollow pier columns, except at the base of the caps, eliminated the need for interior formwork and reduced the overall mass of the structure and concrete required.

Key team member on this project:

- Owner: Florida Department of Transportation
- Contractors: Community, Condotte America, Inc. De Moya Joint Venture
- Segmental Bridge Design Construction: FINLEY
- Design Consultants: BCC Engineering, Inc., STANTEC, APCTE
- Bridge Aesthetics: Touchstone
- Architects - Precast Producer: Rizzani de Eccher
- Casting and Erection Equipment: DEAL-Post-Tensioning: VSL
- Construction Engineering and Inspection: AIM Engineering and Survey, Inc



The Section 5 Palmetto SR826/836 Interchange before (left) and after (right).
Photos courtesy of FDOT

COMPAÑERISMO

BY OSCAR PEREZ ZABALA

Nuestro Colegio fue creado por Cubanos. El colegio fue fundado el 13 de Julio de 1945, en la Habana y sus primeros profesionales fueron graduados en Estados Unidos y Europa. En 1961 se incorporo en el exilio (Florida). El 11 de Enero se celebra el Dia del Ingeniero coincideido con el natalicio del Ingeniero Francisco de Albear, con una misa en la Ermita de la Caridad recordando a los colegas fallecidos en el año anterior. Esta es una de las tradiciones mas importantes y la participacion de todos es siempre bienvenida. El pasado 16 de Enero se recordaron a los Ingenieros Felix Blanco, Delfin Molins y el Doctor Manuel Vilaret entre otros.





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2015-2017**

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MIAMI-DADE UPDATING A/E CONSULTANT SELECTION

Under the Direction of Miriam Singer, Senior Assistant Director for the Procurement Management Department, the Miami-Dade County Internal Services Department (ISD) is preparing to update the Selection Process for Professional A/E Consultants. On December 24, 2015, the Department issued an e-mail with attached documents of proposed legislative changes to the various orders and ordinances affecting the A/E selection process. Namely, a proposed Implementation Order (IO) 3-39 is proposed to replace the current Administrative Order 3-39. As a key to any changes to the IO, MDC Code Ordinance 2-10.4 will require modifications, in particularly as it relates to the local preferences and ranking basis of Consultants. At the request of the Miami-Dade A/E Society (MDAES), Ms. Singer addressed a general membership meeting of MDAES on January 21st to present the proposed changes. MDAES has continued to provide industry input to ISD. According to the Debbie Swain, MDAES past president, the society has expressed a few issues of concern with the proposed legislation and is working with ISD to address them before any County Commission action. Interested parties are encouraged to participate in this process either directly with ISD or through MDAES.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE BACK - HERITAGE



SAN CARLOS INSTITUTE

The San Carlos is maintained exclusively by private donations and the work of volunteers. Donations to the 501 (c) (3) may be made by check or money order payable to the San Carlos Institute and mailed to 516 Duval Street, Key West, FL 33040.

CUBAN MUSEUM

Cuban Museum, Inc. is a Florida non-profit 501 (c)(3), organization founded in 1996. In 2007, it purchased the former Florida Grand Opera Rehearsal Hall at 1200 Coral Way, in Miami. The museum has transformed the facility into a museum venue to be inaugurated in 2016. The museum is poised to house a major collection of art of the Cuban diaspora. Its mission statement is



clear: "To document, showcase and interpret the art, culture and history of the post-1959 Cuban Diaspora." For information about donating to the Museum, becoming a member, or joining the Friends of the Museum, please contact them at 305-667-9007 or send an e-mail to cubanmuseum@bellsouth.com and they will contact you.

**CUBA INFRASTRUCTURE SCHOLARSHIP
COMPETITION (2/27/16)**



The Cuba Infrastructure Scholarship Competition (CISC) is a student design competition organized and sponsored by the Cuban-American Association of Civil Engineers (C-AACE) and the Association of Cuban Engineers (ACE). It entails that university student teams formulate and present a project of their choice on Cuba's public infrastructure that relates to the engineering field in transportation, water resources, power, telecommunications or healthcare. Save the date on February 27, 2016 for the event, which will be held at Casa Bacardi, beginning at 8:00 am. <https://www.facebook.com/events/158885271148688>. <http://c-aace.org/2016-cuba-infrastructure-scholarship-competition/>



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